School Rumble

Jin Kobayashi

Vol. 14

School Rumble

14

Jin Kobayashi

TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED BY
William Flanagan

LETTERED BY
North Market Street Graphics

School Rumble volumes 14, 15, and 16 are works of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

School Rumble volume 14 copyright © 2006 Jin Kobayashi
School Rumble volume 15 copyright © 2006 Jin Kobayashi
School Rumble volume 16 copyright © 2007 Jin Kobayashi
English translation copyright © 2010 Jin Kobayashi

All rights reserved.

Publication rights arranged through Kodansha Ltd.

First published in Japan in 2006 and 2007 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

Translated and adapted: William Flanagan
Lettering: North Market Street Graphics
Cover design: David Stevenson

Honorifics Explained

In this manga book, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in our manga.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

Sempai/Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

Cultural Note

To preserve some of the humor found in *School Rumble*, we have elected to keep Japanese names in their original Japanese order—that is to say, with the family name first, followed by the personal name. So when you hear the name Tsukamoto Tenma, Tenma is just one member of the Tsukamoto family.

School Rumble 14

Jin Kobayashi

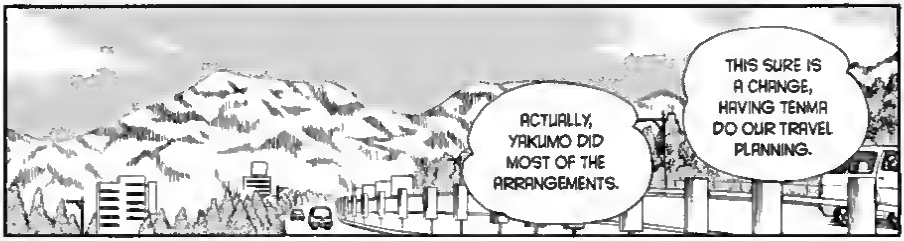
Jenma & Yakumo

Contents

♯165 ASPEN EXTREME 003
♯166 LOVE ON THE RUN 011
♯167 LOVE AT LARGE 024
♯168 STAKEOUT 034
♯169 GIGI 043
♯170 THE NEXT BEST THING 051
♯171 AN OFFICER AND A GENTLEMAN 064
♯172 LO STRANIERO 073
♯173 SAYURI 082
♯174 THE INVISIBLE CIRCLE 092
♯175 THE THING 102
♯176 SIN CITY 112
♯177 OUT ON A LIMB 122
♯178 THE REPLACEMENTS 132

♭37 THE ROMANCING STAR 143
♭38 STACY'S KNIGHTS 151

Ichijo

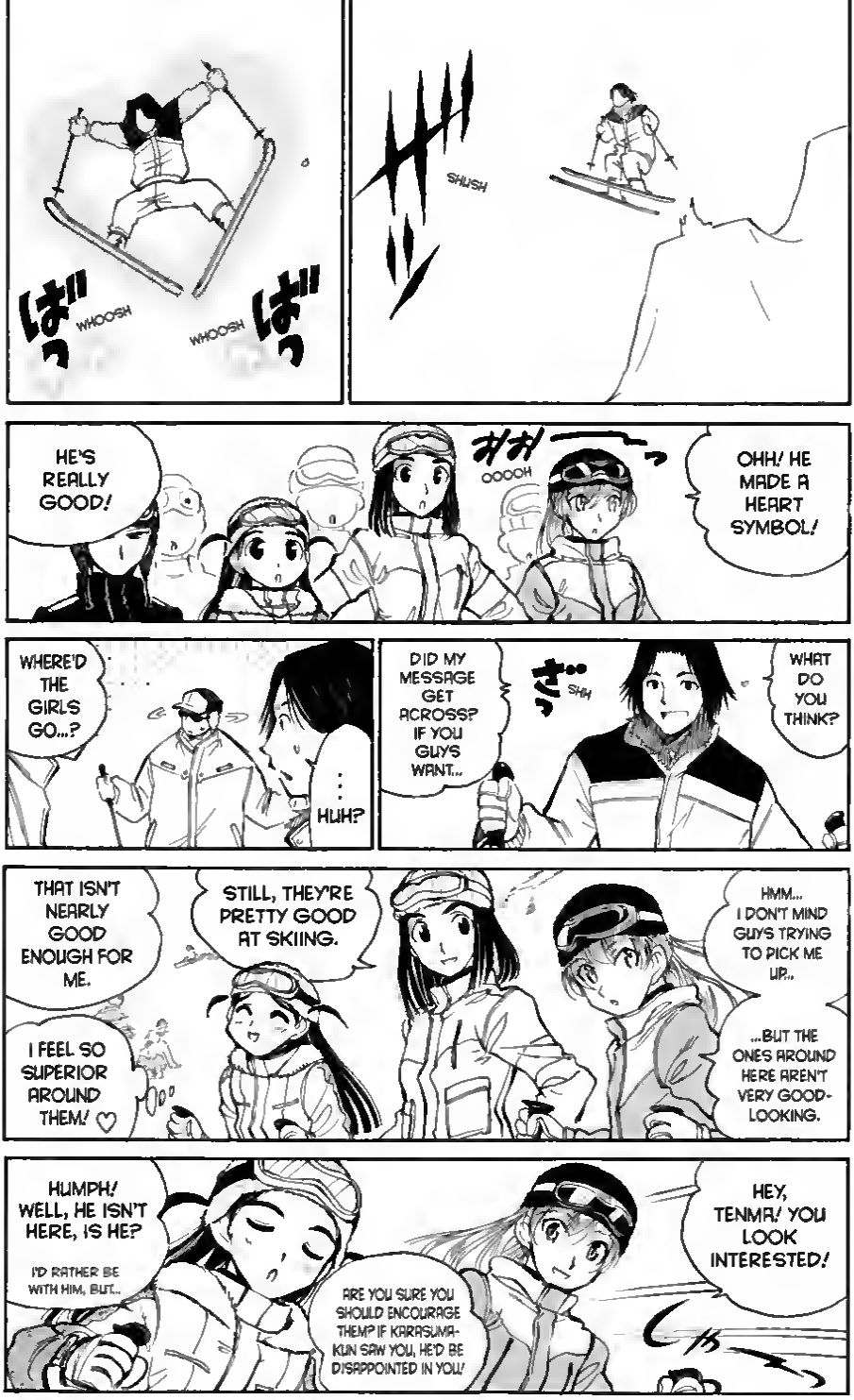


#165 ASPEN EXTREME

SWUUSH
PHEW! THE SNOW FIRST THING IN THE MORNING FEELS THE BEST!
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, TAKANO?
I'LL BE BACK. I'M GOING TO HAVE SOME KATSU CURRY.
EHH?! YOU'RE TAKING A BREAK ALREADY, AKIRA?!
THEN WE SHOULD LET TENMA KNOW.
WHOOSH

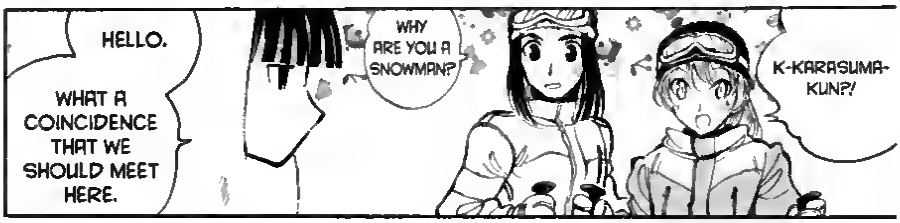
Um, Takano? Takano?

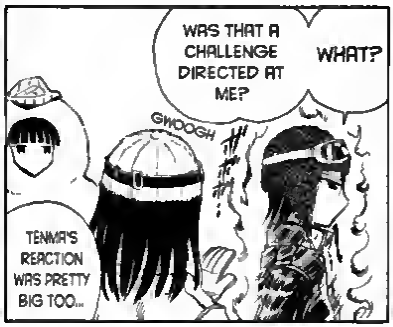
GOING
ぁぁーん
CRASH
THIS FEELS GREAT !!
YOU'RE REALLY AMAZING!
SO YOU INVITED US HERE SO YOU COULD SHOW OFF.
HUH? WHAT'S WITH YOU GUYS?
HM?
YOU GUYS ARE AWE-SOME!!
YAKUMO...
すてーん!
WHUMP
I GUESS EVERYBODY CAN HAVE AN UNEXPECTED TALENT.
HEH HEH! I'M SO GOOD,
I COULD EVEN TEACH YAKUMO HOW TO SKI
♪
HERE THEY ARE!
WE'RE MEMBERS OF THE MOGUL CIRCLE FROM W UNIVERSITY!
YOU'RE REALLY GOOD AT THE JUMPS!


WHOOSH
WHOOSH
SHUSH
HE'S REALLY GOOD!
OOOOH
OHH! HE MADE A HEART SYMBOL!
WHERE'D THE GIRLS GO...?
HUH?
DID MY MESSAGE GET ACROSS? IF YOU GUYS WANT...
SHH
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
THAT ISN'T NEARLY GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME.
STILL, THEY'RE PRETTY GOOD AT SKIING.
HMM... I DON'T MIND GUYS TRYING TO PICK ME UP...
...BUT THE ONES AROUND HERE AREN'T VERY GOOD-LOOKING.
I FEEL SO SUPERIOR AROUND THEM! ♡
HUMPH! WELL, HE ISN'T HERE, IS HE?
I'D RATHER BE WITH HIM, BUT...
ARE YOU SURE YOU SHOULD ENCOURAGE THEM? IF KARASUMA-KUN SAW YOU, HE'D BE DISAPPOINTED IN YOU!
HEY, TENMA! YOU LOOK INTERESTED!

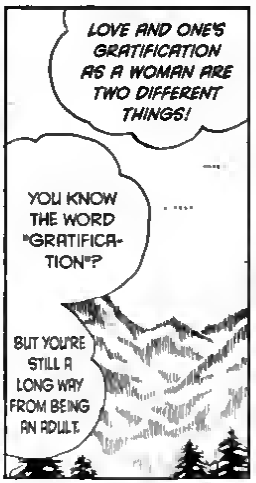
Things One Sees Often at Ski Jumps.

ゴロゴロゴロゴロ
ROLL
ROLL
ROLL
へ!!しゃ
SHUMPH

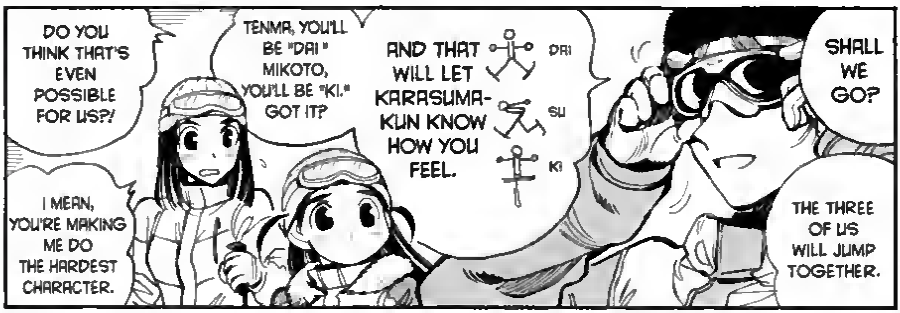

HELLO.
WHAT A COINCIDENCE THAT WE SHOULD MEET HERE.
WHY ARE YOU A SNOWMAN?
K-KARASUMA-KUN?!


WAS THAT A CHALLENGE DIRECTED AT ME?
WHAT?
GWOOGH
TENMA'S REACTION WAS PRETTY BIG TOO...

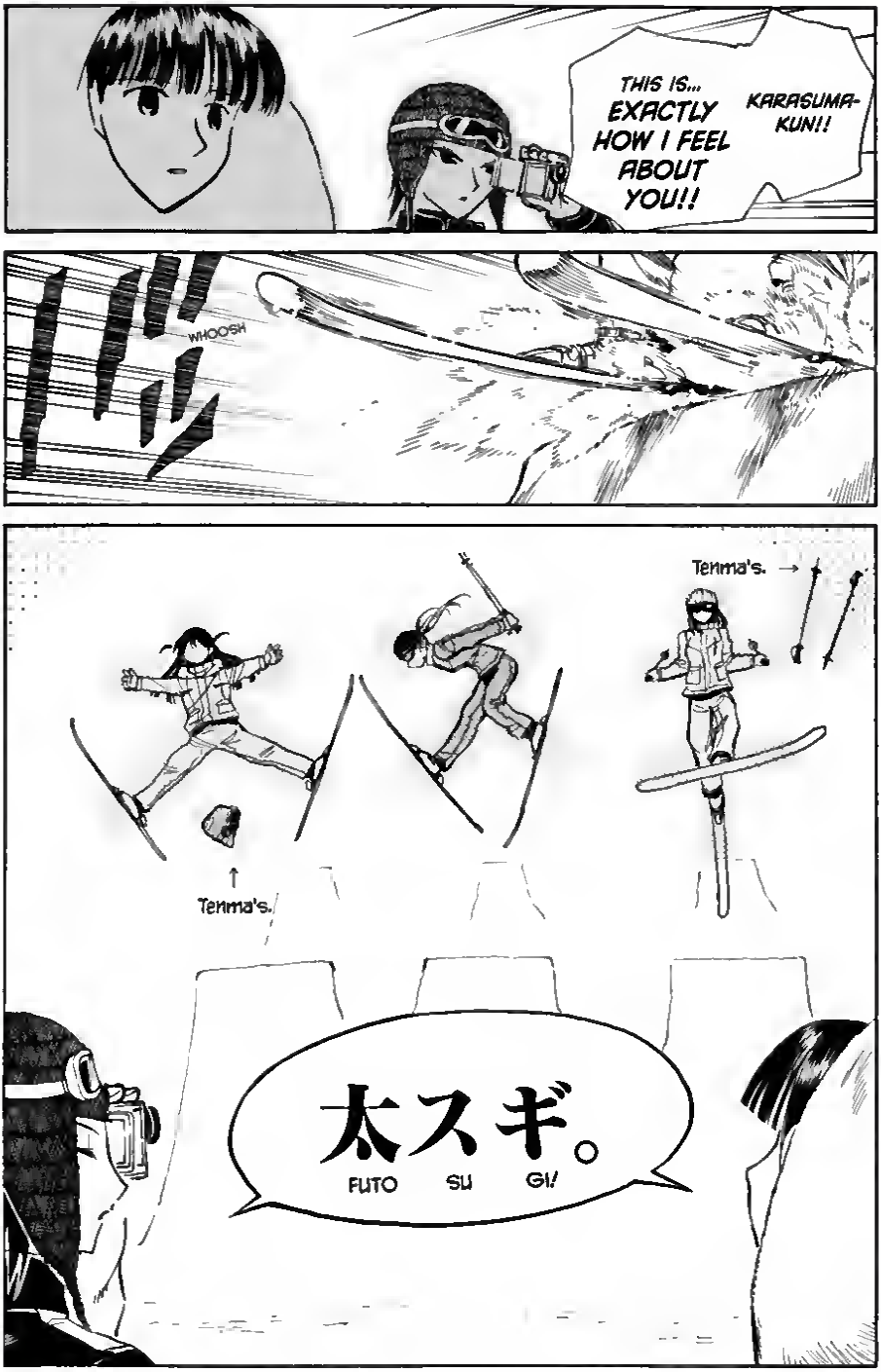
WELL, THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO.
I'LL GO TO YOUR RESCUE JUST THIS ONCE.


LOVE AND ONE'S GRATIFICATION AS A WOMAN ARE TWO DIFFERENT THINGS!
YOU KNOW THE WORD "GRATIFICATION"?
BUT YOU'RE STILL A LONG WAY FROM BEING AN ADULT.

THIS IS NO TIME TO COMPLIMENT YOURSELF!! IT'S YOUR FAULT, YOU KNOW!!
WAAAA! HE SAW AND NOW HE HATES ME!! I JUST KNOW IT!!
ALL I DID WAS TRY TO PLAY THE PART OF A GROWN-UP WOMAN!!

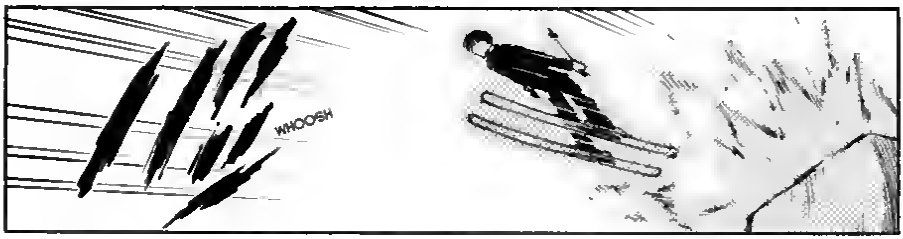

DO YOU THINK THAT'S EVEN POSSIBLE FOR US?!
TENMA, YOU'LL BE "DAI" MIKOTO, YOU'LL BE "KI." GOT IT?
AND THAT WILL LET KARASUMA-KUN KNOW HOW YOU FEEL.
DAI
SU
KI
SHALL WE GO?
I MEAN, YOU'RE MAKING ME DO THE HARDEST CHARACTER.
THE THREE OF US WILL JUMP TOGETHER.

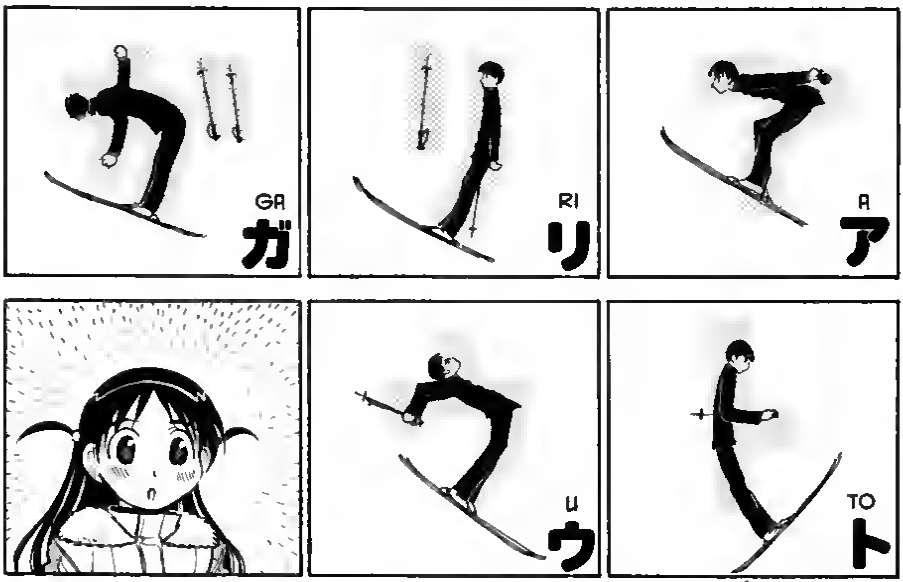
(DAI SUKI=I LOVE YOU)



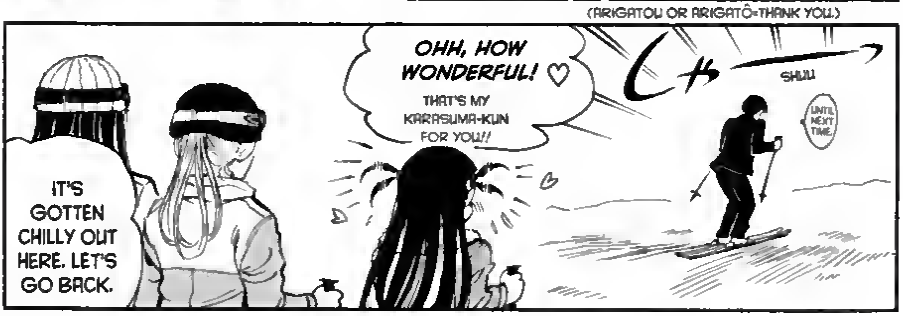
(FUTOSUGI! = YOU'RE TOO FAT!)

I'M AFRAID YOU ARE CORRECT. I AM TOO FAT.
NO, KARASUMA-KUN!! THAT ISN'T WHAT I MEANT!!
MY POLES AND HAT GOT AWAY FROM ME!!
NO, IT IS PERFECTLY ALL RIGHT.
I HAD A VAGUE SENSE THAT I HAD EATEN TOO MUCH OVER NEW YEAR'S BREAK.

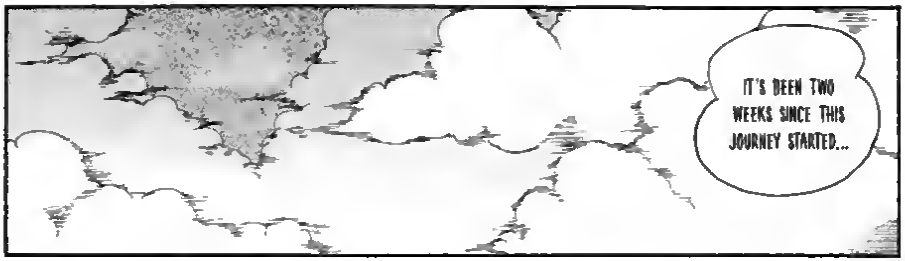


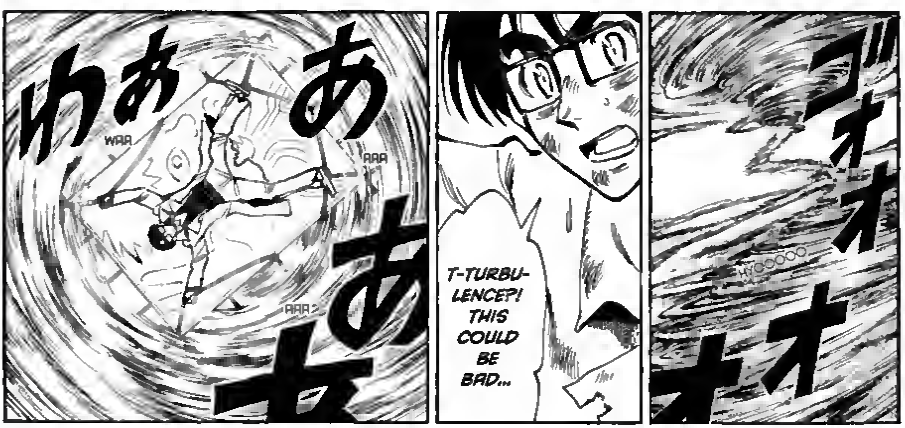


(ARIGATOU OR ARIGATÔ=THANK YOU.)



165 · · · · · · · · · Fin

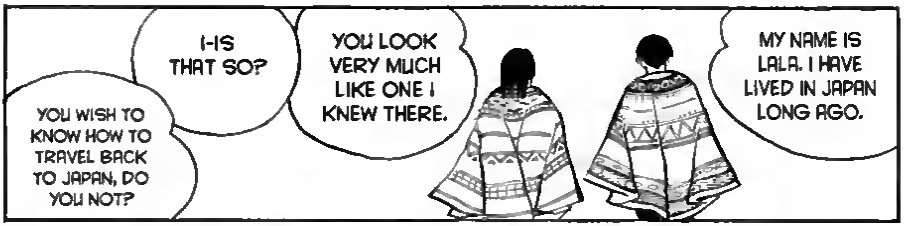


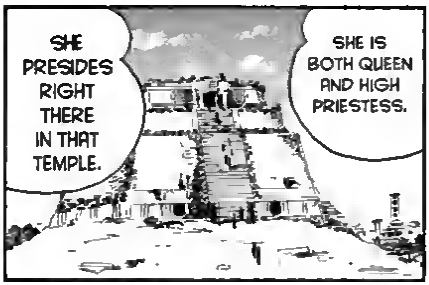


#166 LOVE ON THE RUN

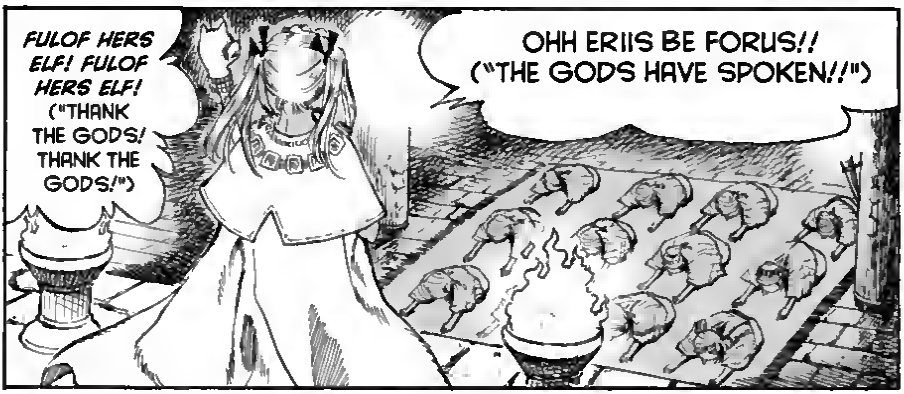
See Why Hanai Is on the Kite in Volume 13.

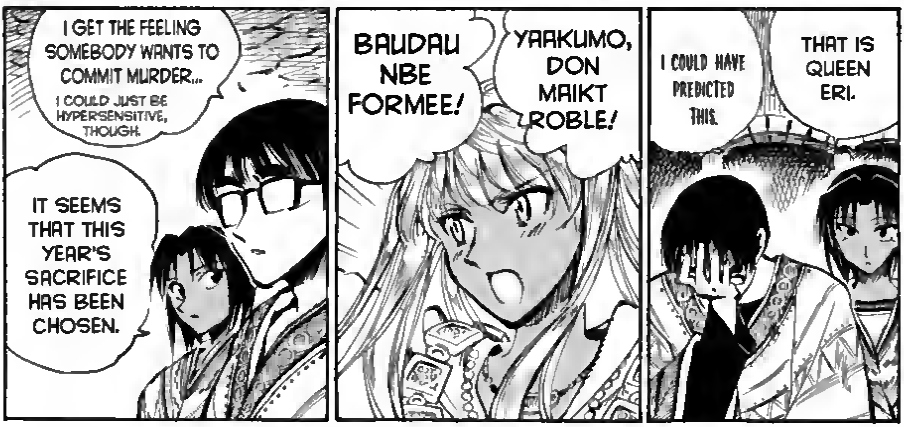
BUT IT'S SO ODD...
I'VE NEVER BEEN HERE BEFORE, BUT...
THE ONLY THING FOR SURE IS THAT I'M A LONG WAY FROM JAPAN...
I STILL HAVE NO IDEA WHERE I AM!
...
...ABOUT THIS PLACE...
...FAMILIAR...
...THERE'S SOME-THING...
HUMPH! FOR WHAT REASON ARE YOU HERE?
I DON'T KNOW YOU!! YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG GUY!!
NOW GO HOME!!
I WON'T BE ANYBODY'S MANZAI PARTNER!!
I REFUSE TO BE THE ANGRY GUY!!
.....


I-IS THAT SO?
YOU LOOK VERY MUCH LIKE ONE I KNEW THERE.
MY NAME IS LALA. I HAVE LIVED IN JAPAN LONG AGO.
YOU WISH TO KNOW HOW TO TRAVEL BACK TO JAPAN, DO YOU NOT?


SHE PRESIDES RIGHT THERE IN THAT TEMPLE.
SHE IS BOTH QUEEN AND HIGH PRIESTESS.

WE MUST CONSULT THE QUEEN FIRST.
HUH? YOU CAN GO BACK?


FULOF HERS ELF! FULOF HERS ELF! ("THANK THE GODS! THANK THE GODS!")
OHH ERIIS BE FORUS!! ("THE GODS HAVE SPOKEN!!")

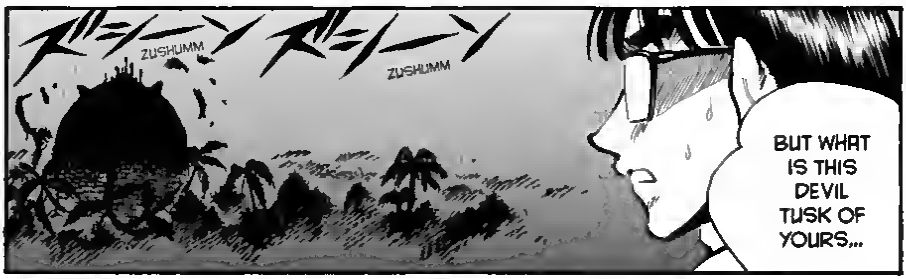

I GET THE FEELING SOMEBODY WANTS TO COMMIT MURDER...
I COULD JUST BE HYPERSENSITIVE, THOUGH.
IT SEEMS THAT THIS YEAR'S SACRIFICE HAS BEEN CHOSEN.
BAUDAU NBE FORMEE!
YAAKUMO, DON MAIKT ROBLE!
I COULD HAVE PREDICTED THIS.
THAT IS QUEEN ERI.

GYAAHEEN!!!
WHUD
NOWSKATT!
SHE IS TO BE THIS SACRIFICE.
ZOOOM
AH!
WHAKAMM
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!!
...BUT I CAN'T STAND BY AND LET THIS HAPPEN!!
GETAC LUEYOUF OOL!!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON HERE...

(ANNOUNCEMENT: TO SPEED THINGS ALONG, WE'RE TRANSLATING THEIR LANGUAGE FROM NOW ON.)
YOU HAVE FATED US TO BE DESTROYED BY THE DEMON BEAST, DEVIL TUSK!!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU JUST DID?!
SILENCE! WE'RE IN THE AGE OF REASON!! THIS IS FOOLISHNESS!!
HEY!! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU ARE DOING?!
...THEN I, HANAI HARUKI, WILL TAKE ON THE BEAST AND DEFEAT IT!!
IF THAT'S THE CASE...
.....
HUSSSH
...AND BRING THE DEMON BEAST DEVIL TUSK TO ITS KNEES!!
...THEN YOU MUST GO SEVEN DAYS FROM NOW, ON THE NIGHT OF THE FULL MOON, TO THE KUTAPANDA JUNGLE...
YOU MAY BRING THE SWORD NAKAMURA WITH YOU
VERY WELL, HANAI! IF YOU WISH TO SAVE THE GIRL...

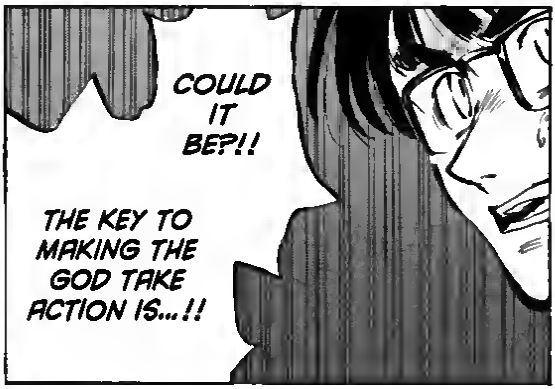
To Speed Things Along: It Is Now Seven Days Later.

IT IS THE PLACE WHERE KUTAPANDA SLEEPS THE LONG SLEEP.
THE LEGENDS SAY THAT IT WILL WAKE WHEN THE VILLAGE IS IN ITS GREATEST DANGER.
HERE IN THE KUTAPANDA JUNGLE...
...RESIDES THE GOD PROTECTOR OF YAGAAMI VILLAGE, SO THE LEGENDS TELL.
BUT NOW, ITS DIVINE PROTECTION HAS GROWN WEAK, AND DEVIL TUSK HAS TAKEN RESIDENCE IN THE JUNGLE.

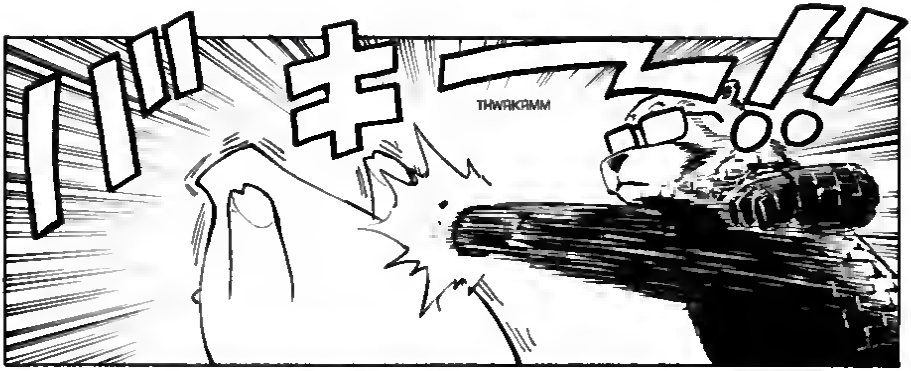


BLOOD GOO
I-I-I-IT-IT'S ALL RIGHT!!
J-JUST LEAVE EVERYTHING TO ME!!
H-HANA!! YOU CAN'T...
KRMBL
ぼろ
KRMBL
ぼろ
KRMBL
キンキンキン
KANG
KANG
KANG
GRRRR
KH!! I'LL MAKE SURE IT DOESN'T TOUCH YAKUMO-KUN!!

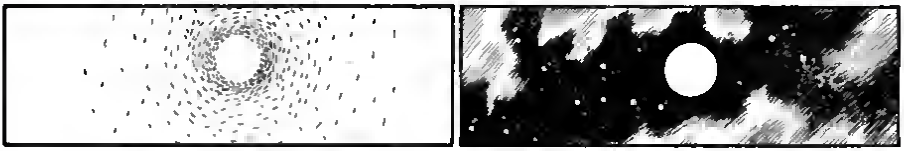
Hm... Kuta...panda...?



Fight, Kûta...Um...I Mean Kutapanda!!


THWAKAMM

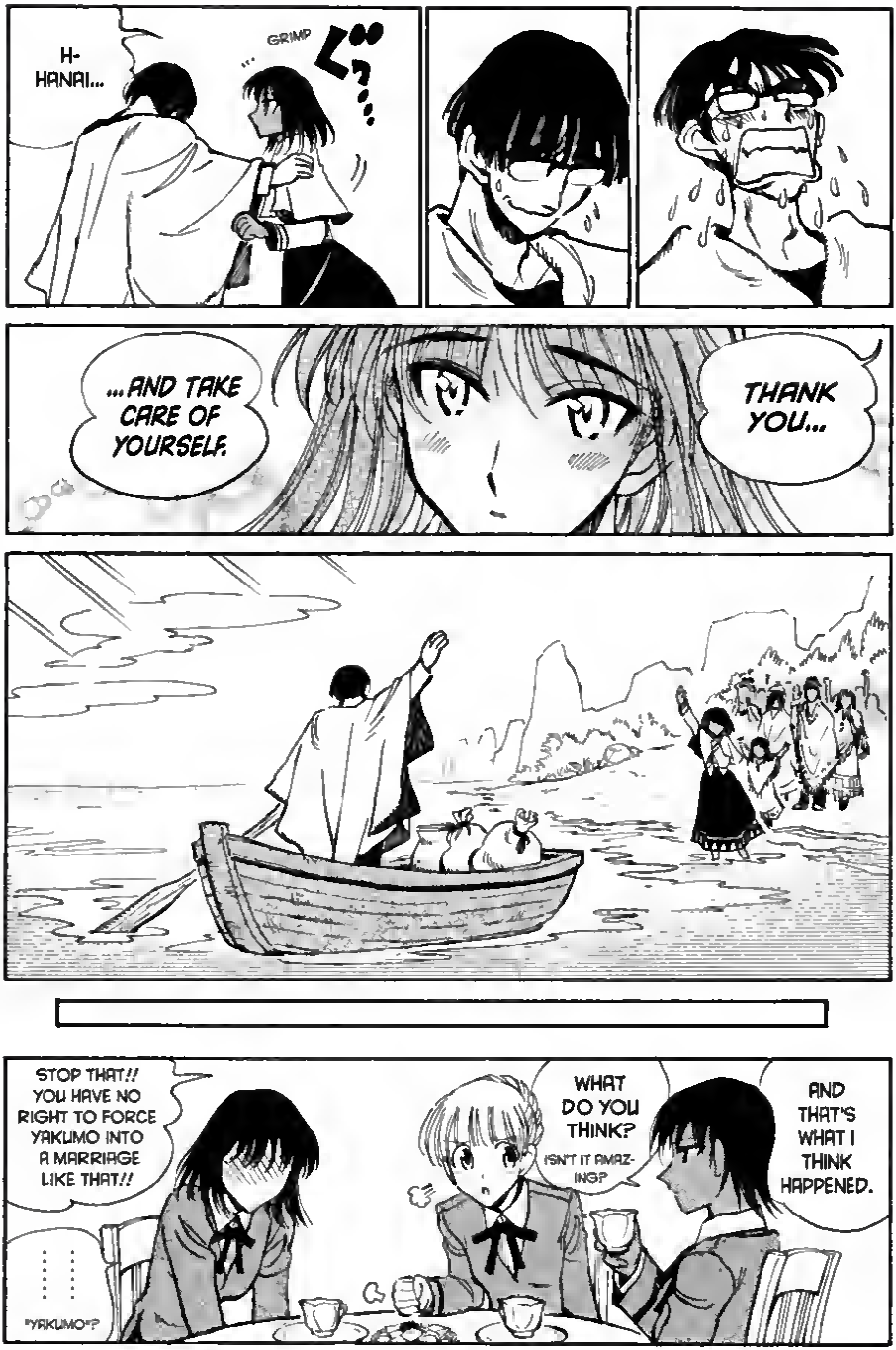
PIGEEEE!!
KASHASH-SHASH
SHMM
SHMM



COME THIS WAY! WE HAVE THE FEAST ALL PREPARED!!
YARRY
YARRY
OOHH!! BRAVE HANAI HAS RETURNED!!

AND WE WILL LIVE HERE TOGETHER ALWAYS...
W-WAIT!! Y-YAKUMO-KUN, THIS IS SO SUDDEN!!

MY FATHER INSISTS I BE MADE YOUR BRIDE.
U-UM... HANAI-SAMA...


H-HANAI...
GRIMP
...AND TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF.
THANK YOU...
STOP THAT!! YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO FORCE YAKUMO INTO A MARRIAGE LIKE THAT!!
"YAKUMO"?
WHAT DO YOU THINK? ISN'T IT AMAZING?
AND THAT'S WHAT I THINK HAPPENED.

166 · · · · · · · · · Fin

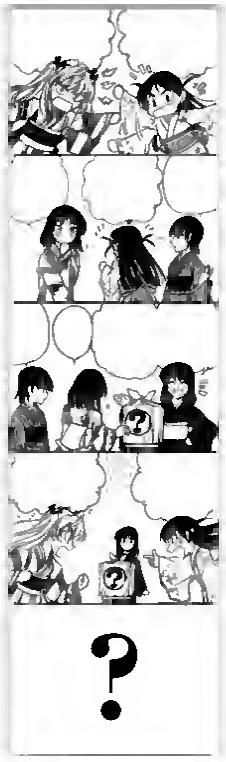
Short Rumble

The Road To

There was an event called "School Rumble Festival: Everyone Gether!" to commemorate the start of the TV anime, *School Rumble Second Semester*. And I'm going to tell you about one of the most popular attractions at the event, the contest called The Road to Short Rumble!

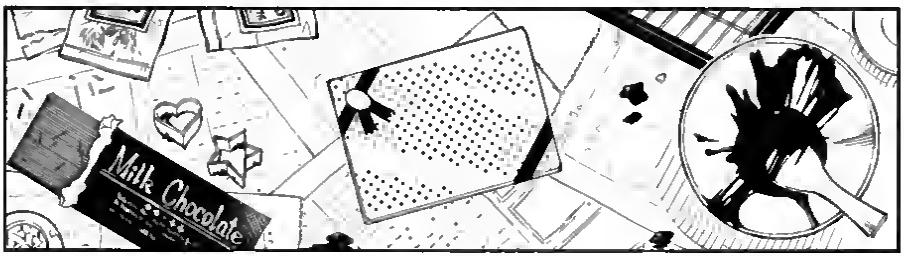
In The Road to Short Rumble, Jin Kobayashi-sensei drew four panels, and members of the voice cast got to put in dialog. Then, at the very end, they all drew original drawings for the fifth panel! The winning version can be found on pages 160-161 of this volume!!

The contest was produced to include in this graphic novel, and we asked two of the actors to help make the event a success: the voice actor for Takano, Shimizu Kaori-san, who heads the Shimizu Team, and the voice actor for Hanai, Kawada Shinji-san, who heads the Kawada Team. The other voice actors were split into their two teams and for each panel, one member from each team competed in front of the audience. For the fifth original drawing panel, all the members drew their own panels, and the best was judged. The way the teams were divided is below.



Shimizu Team		Kaweda Team
Playing Suô, Nabatame Hitomi	VS.	Playing Laia, Kobayashi Yû
Playing Sarah, Fukui Yukari	VS.	Playing Ichijô, Mako-san
Playing Sawachika, Horie Yui	VS.	Playing Tenma, Koshimizu Ami
Playing Harima, Takahashi Hiroki	VS.	Playing Yakumo, Noto Mamiko
???		

◀ "The Road to Short Rumble" continues on page 33...



I THINK YOU'RE TAKING THE EMOTION TOO FAR, BUT I'M SURE THAT KARASUMA-KUN WILL BE HAPPY TO GET THIS FROM YOU.
I GUARANTEE IT!
WAAAH! THANK YOU, MIKO-CHAN!!

IT LOOKED LIKE WE'D FAIL UTTERLY SO MANY TIMES, BUT IN THE END, WE DID IT!!
YES, THE ONLY CHOCOLATE A PERSON CAN GIVE IS THE HAND-MADE KIND!!
JUST YOU WAIT, KARASUMA-KUN!!

#167 LOVE AT LARGE

HM... I JUST GOT CAUGHT UP IN THE ATMOSPHERE, AND MADE SOME.
BY THE WAY, AKIRA-CHAN! WHO ARE YOU GIVING YOUR CHOCOLATE TO?
STILL... I MAY FEEL THE INCLINATION TOMORROW TO BESTOW IT ON SOMEONE OR OTHER.
I HAVEN'T DECIDED ON A RECIPIENT.
DON'T SAY THAT, TENMA!!
IT TAKES ALL KINDS!
EH?
WHAT A WASTE! AFTER MAKING THESE GREAT CHOCOLATES!!
HYUU! IT SOUNDS LIKE FUN! COUNT ME IN!!
I THINK THAT WE SHOULD TAIL HER IN SECRET TOMORROW!
IT COULD BE THAT AKIRA-CHAN'S HEART IS WHISPERING TO HER!!
BUT MAYBE I SPOKE TOO SOON!
IT'S JUST POSSIBLE THAT...
?
えいえいおー
1, 2, 3, GO!!

THE NEXT DAY...
DO YOU REALLY THINK SHE'S GOING TO GIVE CHOCOLATES TO SOMEBODY?
DON'T UNDERESTIMATE HER! AKIRA-CHAN WILL MAKE HER MOVE!!
CHATTER
CHATTER
HM... SHE DIDN'T SHOW ANY SIGNS ALL DAY.
TSK! YOU COWARD, ERI-CHAN!
I'M GETTING A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS.
I THINK I'LL CALL IT QUITS.
WE MUST STAKE HER OUT, OFFICER MIKOTO!!
ROGER!
SNEAK
SNEAK
AH! AKIRA-CHAN IS GOING HOME!
THE CHAIRMAN'S... OFFICE?!
THE...
KREE
CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

Count off: 1, 2!

OF COURSE, MY DEAR!!
...SHOWER ME WITH THE SCHOOL'S TUITION FEES!!
SST
FORGIVE ME! I'LL TAKE ANY PUNISHMENT YOU THINK I DESERVE, ONLY...
WE MUSTN'T MEET DURING OFFICE HOURS!! YOU PROMISED!!
YOU BAD GIRL!
CHAIRMAN (IMAGINED) THEY'VE NEVER ACTUALLY SEEN HIM.
STOP THEM NOW BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!!
THIS COULD MEAN EXPULSION!!
WE HAVE TO STOP THEM!!
AND NOW I'M AFRAID OF MY OWN IMAGINATION!!
GWAAAH!! IT'S ACTUALLY POSSIBLE!!
ばーん!
BRMM
AKIRA-CHAN!!
CHARGE!!
THE CHAIRMAN-SAMA'S ARMOR...
OH... OH...
AND WHERE IS AKIRA-CHAN?!
HUSSH

NICE PLAY AT SECOND!!
5 6 7
カキーン!
KAKIING
GIVE IT YOUR BEST SHOT!!
AND AKIRA VANISHED, BUT...
...WHAT'S SHE DOING WITH THE BASEBALL TEAM NOW?
AHH... THAT WAS CLOSE! WE COULD HAVE BEEN TAKEN IN AS SUSPECTS!
I LIKE IT! I LIKE IT!
THAT'S GOTTA BE HOW IT IS!!
GIVE IT YOUR ALL TA-CHAN!
I KNOW!! IT'S LIKE THIS!
カキーン
KAKIING
SHE'S BATTING...
AND A GREAT SWING..
WELL, LET'S FIND OUT!
そろー
SERK
STOP THAT!! WE'LL START OVER! STAKEOUT!
SAY, TENMA. LET'S GO HOME, HUH?

HEY! THAT STORE IS OWNED BY THE PARENTS OF A CLASSMATE OF OURS!
SHH! SOMEBODY'S COMING OUT!
Rental Nishi
VIDEO DVD CD
OUR ARRANGEMENT WAS FOR 5 P.M.-DASU.
EXCUSE ME. I WANTED TO GET HERE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.
THEN I WILL BUY YOU! JUST, PLEASE
I AM NOT FOR RENTAL-DASU!
EHHH?! AN "ARRANGEMENT"?!
BUT THAT MEANS...!!!
IT LOOKS LIKE SHE RECEIVED SOMETHING FROM HIM INSTEAD.
AND I WONDER WHY NISHIMOTO-KUN IS APOLOGIZING...?
ペコ ペコ
BOW BOW
ペコ ペコ
BOW BOW

IS SHE EXPECTING SOMEBODY? FINALLY, A SCENARIO WITH PROMISE!
HM... NOW AKIRA-CHAN IS LOITERING AROUND A SHRINE!!
WHY'D YOU CONTACT ME ALL OF A SUDDEN?
AH, SHÛJI. YOU'RE EARLY.
AKIRA-NEE-CHAN!!
I KNOW A GUY'S A GUY, BUT...
HE'S NOT WHAT WE THOUGHT WAS HER TYPE!
I-IT'S SHÛJI-KUN...
HARIMA-KUN'S BROTHER...
EHHH?!
HAPPY VALEN-TINE'S DAY, SHÛJI...
AH, YES...
WOW! EVERYBODY IN THE KIDS' CLUB WILL LOVE THESE!!
THANK'S, AKIRA-NEE-CHAN!!
THERE ARE PLENTY IN HERE, SO BE SURE TO SPLIT THEM AMONG EVERYONE.

WHOA! I'LL AVOID THAT ONE!!
BETTER YET, COULD YOU THROW IT AWAY FOR ME?
IT CAME OUT WRONG. IF YOU ATE IT, YOU'D WIND UP IN A LOT OF PAIN.
EH?
AH! YOU MUSTN'T EAT THE ONE IN THE CORNER!
TSK! THAT WAS A WASTE!
I GUESS AKIRA IS STILL A FREE AGENT, HUH?
LET'S GO HOME!
SO IT TURNED OUT TO BE ONLY SHÛJI-KUN.
THAT SHE GAVE CHOCOLATE TO
ぽいっ
HUP

Welcome Back, Hanai. And Get Well Soon.

167 · · · · · · · · · Fin

Short Rumble The Road To

To start off, we present the contestants and winners of the First Panel contest!!

<Shimizu Team> Playing Suô: Nabatame Hitomi-san

Q&A for Nabatame-san

• What do you like about the character you play?
Her laid-back personality.

• What is a difference between yourself and your character?
The fact that she's so popular with the opposite sex! (laughs)

• Here's *School Rumble Second Semester*, and this is what I want you to watch.
Mikoto is the most normal of the four friends, so I try not to add too much strangeness.

VS

Q&A for Kobayashi-san

• What do you like about the character you play?
Her strong, straightforward, hot but gentle, and extremely cute parts. Actually, I like everything about her!

• What is a difference between yourself and your character?
There are a whole lot of differences, but the fact that she is so strong when fighting is a characteristic I just don't have! I find that really cool!

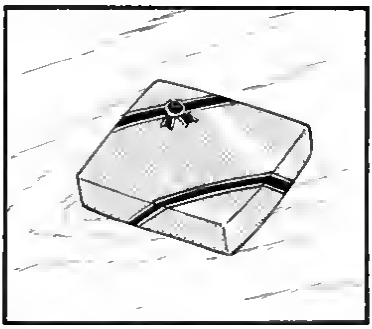
• Ichi Jô!! School *Rumble Second Semester*, fungaah!!
There are a lot of scenes where I have to be very powerful in my voice acting, so I try to approach the part in a very physical way. I practice being a gorilla, and sometimes pound the floor with my bare feet and try different things while I'm doing the voice. I hope everyone becomes a fan of Lala!

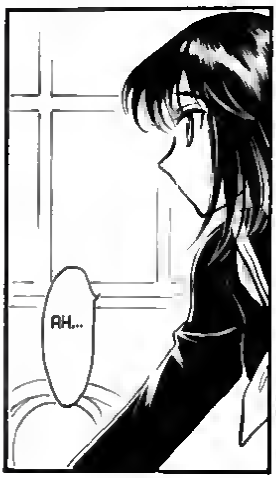
<Kawada Team> Playing Lala: Kobayashi Yû-san

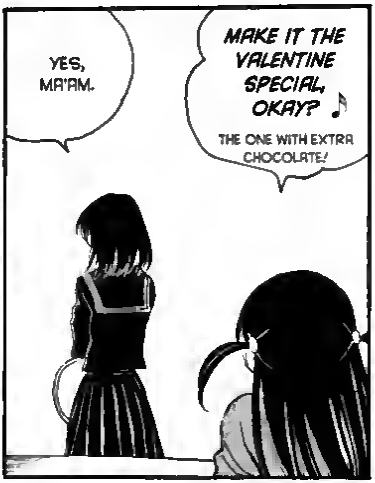
The Winner

<Kawada Team> Kobayashi Yû-san! ☆

"The Road to Short Rumble" continues on page 63 with panel 2...







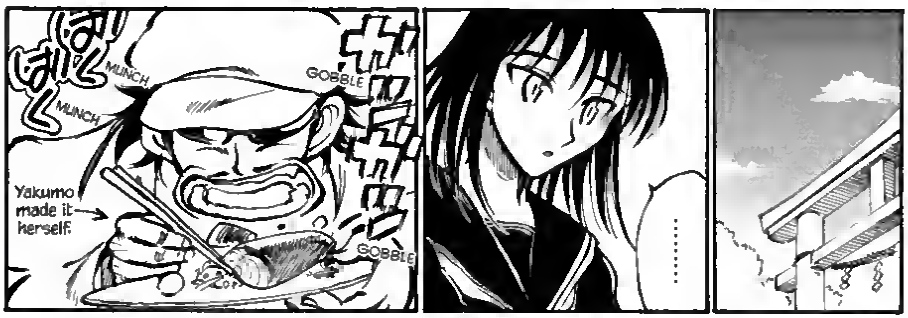
#168 STAKEOUT

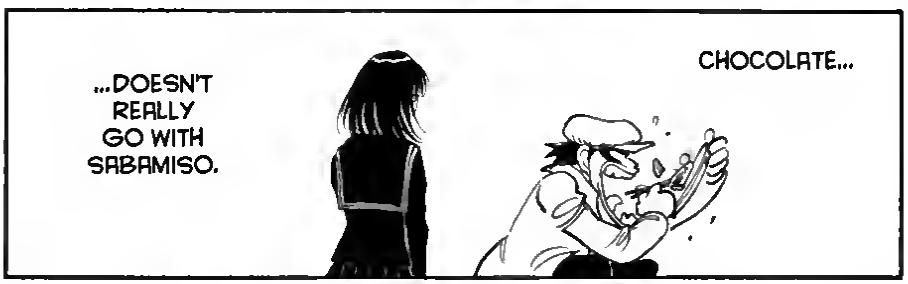
DO-AAAAA-HHH!!!
UM... HARIMA-SAN... DID YOU WANT SOMETHING..?
WHAT IS IT? IS SOMETHING GOING ON OUTSIDE?
EH...?
NO...

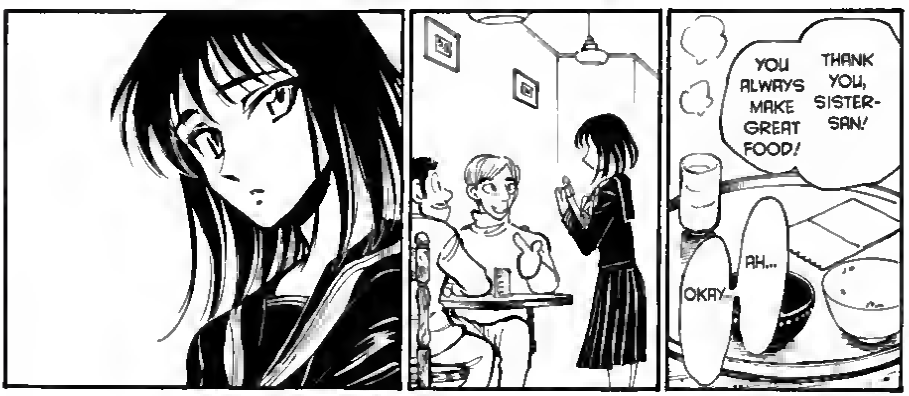
SOMETHING... I-I... YOU MEAN...
IF YOU STAY HERE, YOU'LL CATCH COLD...
SORRY. BUT FOR SOME REASON, I CAN'T SEEM TO MOVE FROM THIS SPOT.
HEY! HEY, YAKUMO!
ARE YOU GIVING ANYBODY CHOCO-LATE?
WHAT IS IT, NEE-SAN?
I ALREADY GAVE YOU YOURS.
I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THAT!!
WHEN I SAY "GIVE," I'M TALKING ABOUT GIVING TO A GUY!
どん
BAM
Y-YOU THINK SO...?
YOU'RE ABOUT THE RIGHT AGE FOR IT. AS A WOMAN, YOU HAVE TO GIVE THOUGHT TO THESE THINGS!

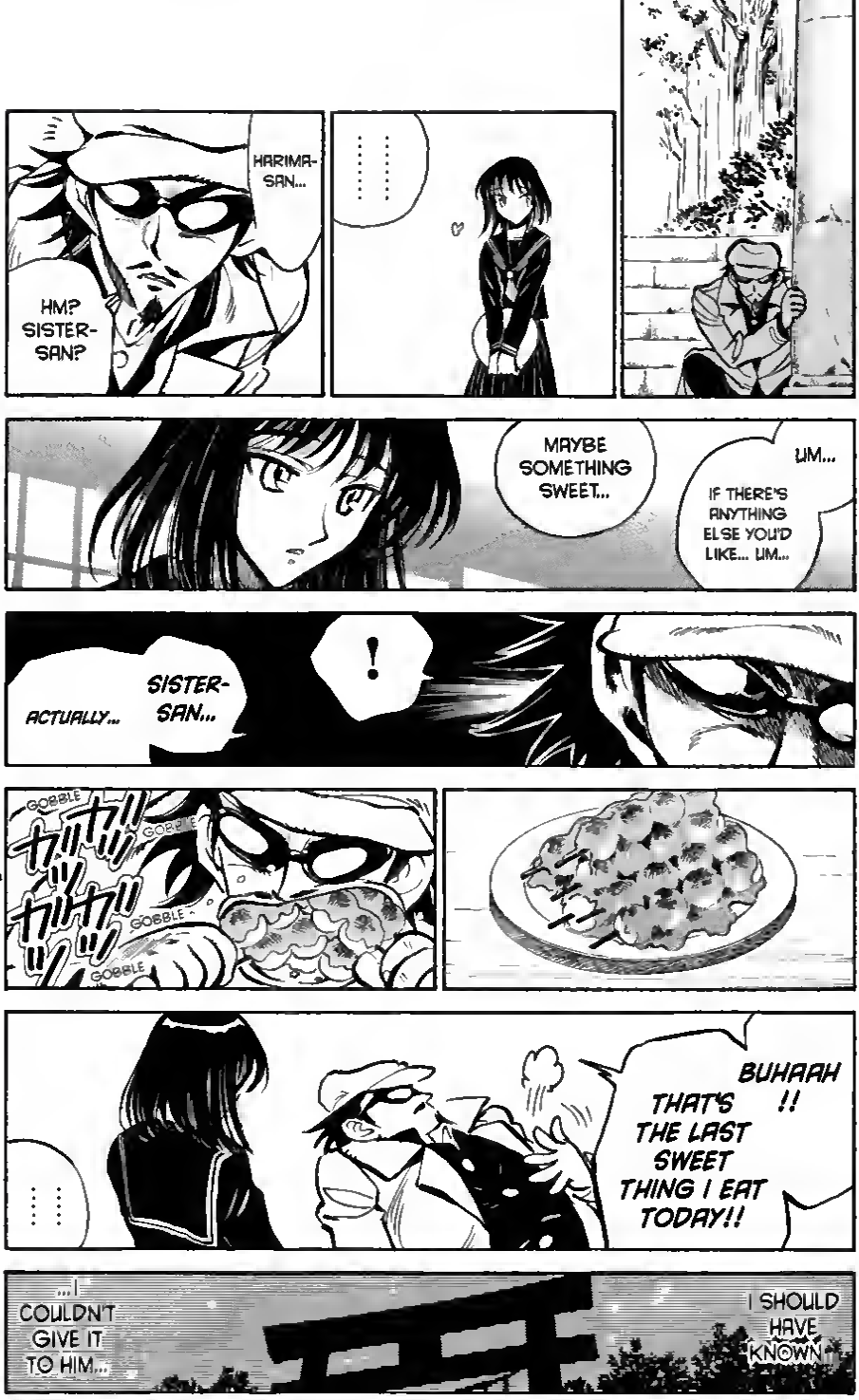
GIVE TO A GUY... HM...?
.....
UM... THERE'S A QUESTION I'D LIKE TO ASK.
AH! I-I THINK IT ISN'T REALLY A PROBLEM.
D-DON'T COME OUT HERE! PEOPLE WILL NOTICE!
THE CAFÉ IS WELL LIT, AND IT'S PRETTY DARK OUT HERE...
Mercado
H-HARIMA-SAN...?
L-LITTLE SISTER-SAN!
.....
EH...?
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO EAT MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE!
YES, THERE IS.
...THAT YOU'D LIKE TO EAT TODAY...?
I-I MEAN, IS THERE SOME-THING...
YES...
UM... IT'S ABOUT CHOC-
?
WHAT IS IT?

I'D REALLY LIKE A NICE PLATE OF SABAMISO!
EH...?


MUNCH
MUNCH
GOBBLE
GOBBLE
Yakumo made it herself!
.....


...DOESN'T REALLY GO WITH SABAMISO.
CHOCOLATE...


YOU ALWAYS MAKE GREAT FOOD!
THANK YOU, SISTER-SAN!
AH...
OKAY.

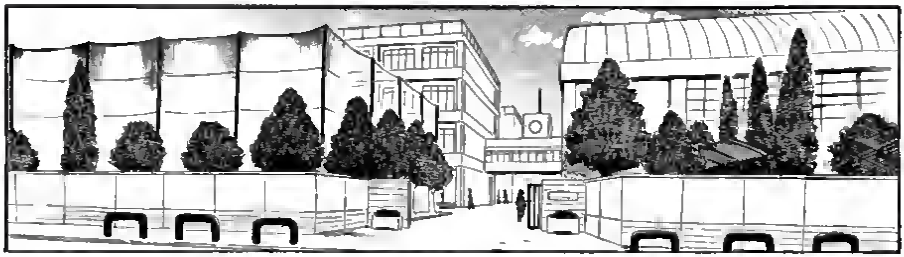

HARIMA-SAN...
HM? SISTER-SAN?
.....
UM... IF THERE'S ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D LIKE... UM...
MAYBE SOMETHING SWEET...
SISTER-SAN...
ACTUALLY...
!
GOBBLE
GOBBLE
GOBBLE
GOBBLE
.....
BUHAAH !!
THAT'S THE LAST SWEET THING I EAT TODAY!!
...I COULDN'T GIVE IT TO HIM...
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN

What She Really Wanted to Give Him...

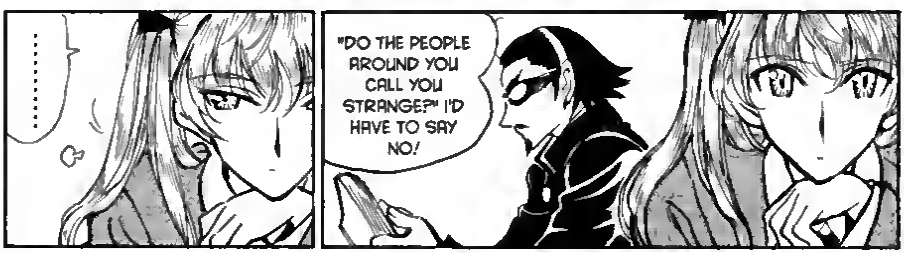
WHAT'LL I DO WITH THIS...?
SHAKE
SHAKE
.....
DO YOU WANT THIS?
!ORI?
THWRP
AH...

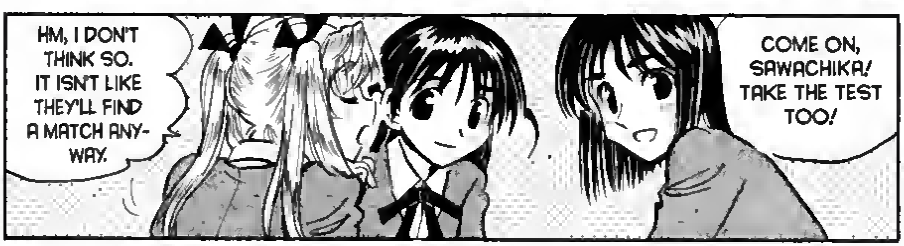
Good for You, Hanai... Um... Wait a Second...

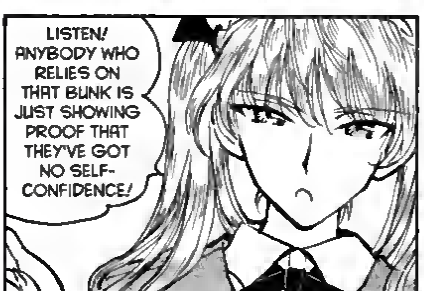
168 . . . . . Fin

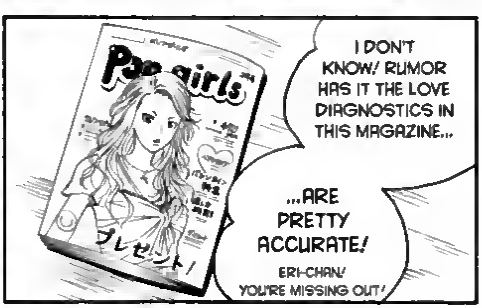


"DO YOU HATE BEING ALONE?" A DEFINITE YES!
"DO YOU SAVE THE MOST DELICIOUS FOR LAST?" NO!!


.....
"DO THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU CALL YOU STRANGE?" I'D HAVE TO SAY NO!


HM, I DON'T THINK SO. IT ISN'T LIKE THEY'LL FIND A MATCH ANYWAY.
COME ON, SAWACHIKA! TAKE THE TEST TOO!


LISTEN! ANYBODY WHO RELIES ON THAT BUNK IS JUST SHOWING PROOF THAT THEY'VE GOT NO SELF-CONFIDENCE!


Pop girls
I DON'T KNOW! RUMOR HAS IT THE LOVE DIAGNOSTICS IN THIS MAGAZINE...
...ARE PRETTY ACCURATE!
ERI-CHAN! YOU'RE MISSING OUT!

# 169	GIGI

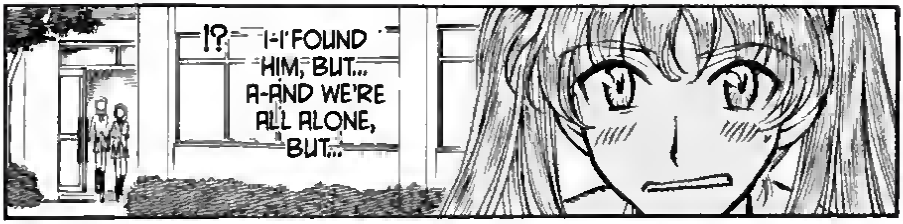
Cute!
Pop girls
LULU
HM... THAT'S THE ONE THAT TENMA AND THE GROUP WERE DOING.
N-NOTHING...!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WA!!
HM? SAWACHIKA?
GEEZ! HOW ON EARTH CAN A MAGAZINE...
Pop girls

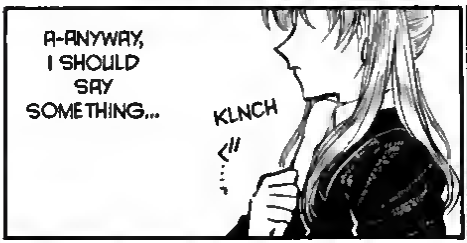
Sure-Fire Me!
Valentine's Day!!
"AND IF YOU USE THAT TIME TO GIVE HIM YOUR CHOCOLATE, HIS HEART WILL POUND LIKE A HAMMER! HE HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO FALL FOR YOU HARD!!"
I WONDER IF THAT'S TRUE?
"THE MORE YOU TREAT EVERYONE BUT HIM TO A COLD SHOULDER, THE MORE YOUR MAN WILL TREAT YOU WITH HIS 'SPECIAL KINDNESS'"!
LET'S SEE... "YOU ARE A D-TYPE PERSONALITY. YOU MUST GO ON THE ATTACK WITH AN UNUSUAL TOUCH!!"
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
BUT SINCE IT ALWAYS GOES WRONG ANYWAY, MAYBE TOMORROW I SHOULD...
はぁ— SIGH
IT'S JUST GIRI CHOCOLATE. WHY DO I HAVE TO GO THROUGH ALL THAT FOR SIMPLE GIRI CHOCOLATE?
THIS IS JUST STUPID!! I'M GOING TO SLEEP!!
WHAT? OH, NO! LOOK AT THE TIME!
WHY DO I FALL APART IN FRONT OF HIM ALL THE TIME?!!
ANY OTHER MAN, AND THIS WOULD BE EASY!

VALENTINE'S DAY...
AH, ERI-CHAN!!
WE HAVE TO PREPARE TO TAIL AKIRA-CHAN!
I GUESS I SHOULD PUT IN SOME PRACTICE...
HM...
BUT HOW CAN ANYBODY EVER GET MAD AT YOU?! ♡
A COMPLETELY FAKE, PUT-ON SMILE.
SMIIILE
OH, MY! TENMA-CHAN! WHATEVER MAKES YOU SO TARDY ALL OF THE TIME?
I'VE GOT IT DOWN!
IT'S FUN WHEN YOU TRY IT.
YEP. THAT'LL DO IT.
E-ERI-CHAN'S ACTING WEIRD!!
TSUKAMOTO WANTED ME TO ASK YOU TO STOP USING THAT CREEPY, FAKE, NEWS-CASTER SMILE ANY-MORE.
KACHAK
カチャ…
HEY, SAWACHIKA! I'M COMING IN.

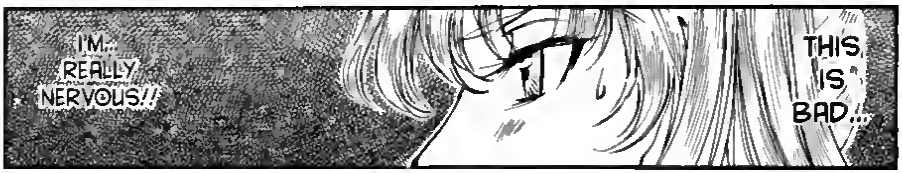
AND WATCH YOUR ATTITUDE WHEN YOU TALK TO ME!!
HUH?! MIND YOUR OWN FREAKING BUSINESS!
I'M PRETTY GOOD, IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF!
YEP, THAT'S THE PLAN!
HUH? I COULD HAVE SWORN...
SHE'S EXACTLY THE SAME AS ALWAYS.
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHY I'M GOING THROUGH ALL THIS!!
MORE AND MORE I'M QUESTIONING THIS DECISION!!
OH, FOR PITY'S SAKE!! NOW I'M ANNOYED!!
HE'S ALWAYS AROUND EXCEPT WHEN YOU'RE LOOKING FOR HIM!
LET'S SEE...
THERE HE IS!!
TENMA-CHAN!
SNEAK
HM...?

Sawachika Eri's "Cold Shoulder." Yup. There It Is.


!?
I-I'FOUND HIM, BUT... A-AND WE'RE ALL ALONE, BUT...


A-ANYWAY, I SHOULD SAY SOMETHING...
KLNCH
!!
.....

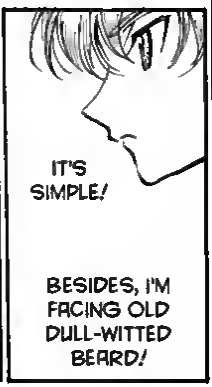
I WONDER WHAT HE'S DOING...


I'M... REALLY NERVOUS!!
THIS IS BAD...

AND I WAS NEVER SHAKEN. I SIMPLY ACTED AS CHARMING AS I ALWAYS DO!
THAT'S RIGHT! UP UNTIL NOW, EVERY MAN I'VE MET HAS SHOWN AN INTEREST IN ME!

WH-WHAT'S WITH ME? THIS IS JUST THE SAME AS WHEN I MEET EVERY OTHER MAN!
ALL I HAVE TO DO IS BE JUST THE SLIGHTEST BIT SWEET!

B-BUT... IS IT POSSIBLE THAT SUCH GROWN-UP MANEUVERS DON'T WORK ON DULL-WITTED BEARD?
IT'S VERY POSSIBLE!!

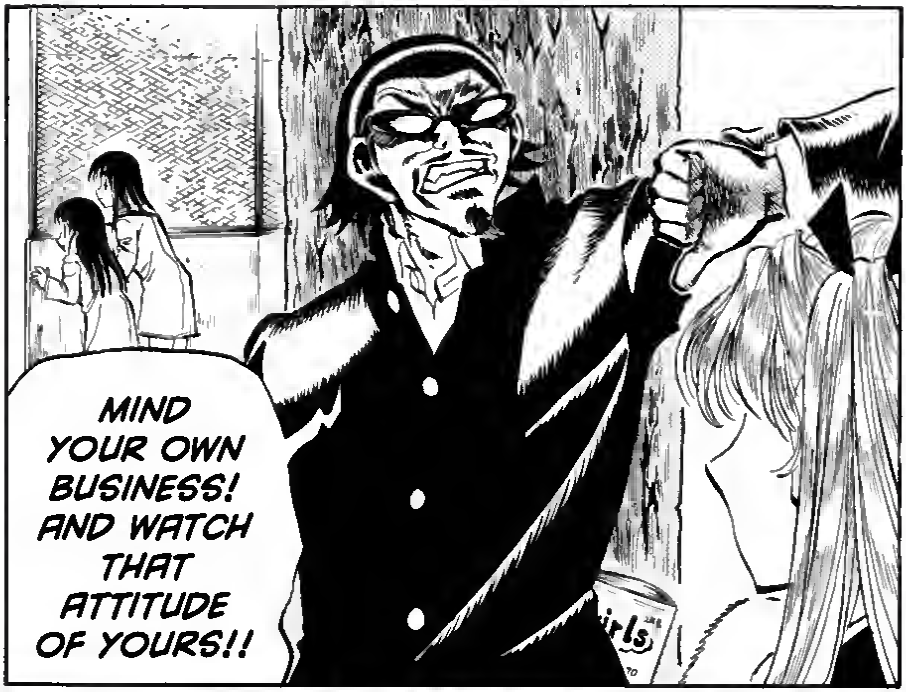

IT'S SIMPLE!
BESIDES, I'M FACING OLD DULL-WITTED BEARD!

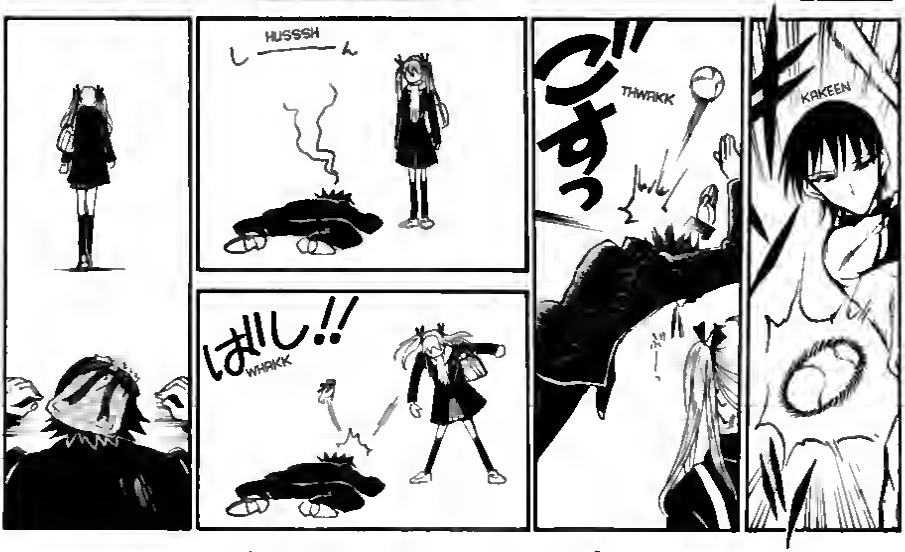
THAT'S RIGHT! FIRST, I NEED TO PUT ON A BRIGHT, CHEERY LOOK...
LET'S SEE... HOW DID IT GO...?
STILL... I HAVE TO PUT INTO ACTION THE FRUITS OF ALL MY PRACTICE.

BUT THE TIMING IS PERFECT! HERE!
MY, WHAT A COINCIDENCE BUMPING INTO YOU HERE!
HARIMA-KUN!
HUH...?

SURE! YOU'RE HELPING OUT A LOT AS CLASS REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE SCHOOL TRIP! THINK OF IT AS A LITTLE THANK-YOU.
Y-YOU'RE GIVING ME CHOCOLATE...? SAWACHIKA, ARE YOU...

HARIMA-KUN!
MY, WHAT A COIN–
YES! THAT'S PERFECT!
THIS WILL BE MY VICTORY!
I-IS THAT SO...?
I GUESS I PUT YOU THROUGH A LOT OF TROUBLE. SORRY. TH-THANK YOU.
TH-THANK YOU.



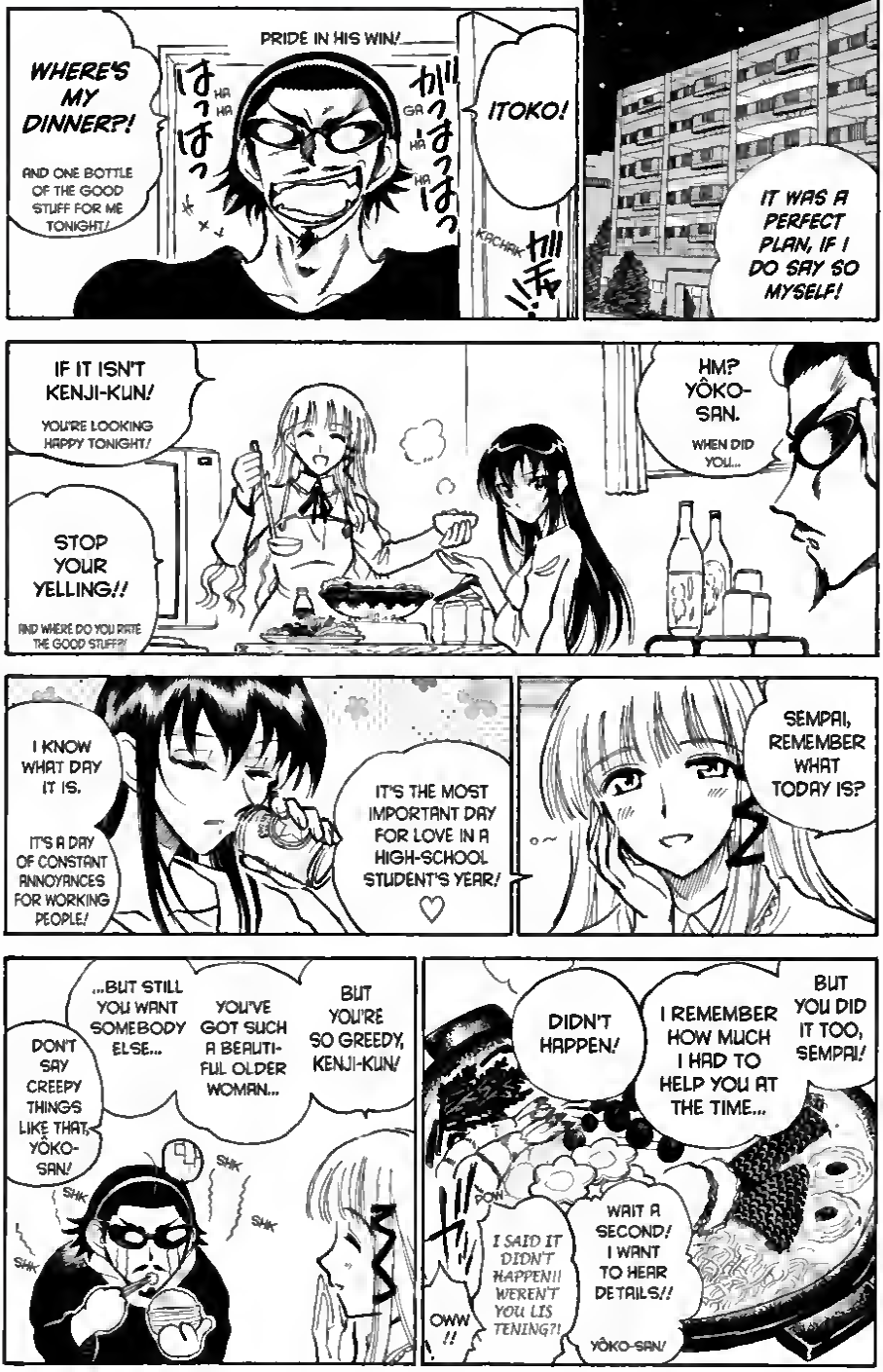


For Why Everyone Is There, See Chapter 167.

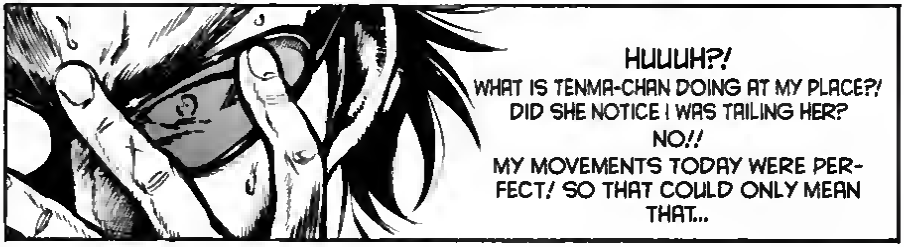
169 · · · · · · · · Fin

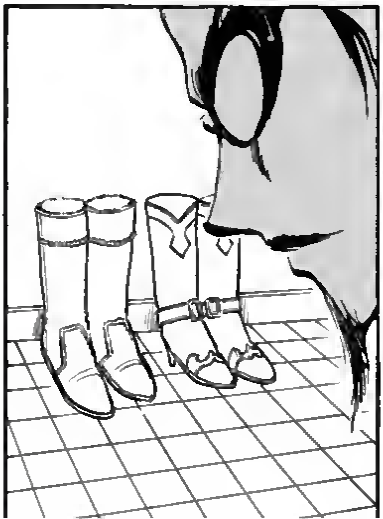
170
THE NEXT BEST THING
CHATTER
わい
わい
CHATTER
Mercado coffee
I'M HOME!

IN THE END, SHE NEVER GAVE IT TO KARASUMA.
HER CHOCOLATE.
TENMA-CHAN...
.....
SIGH...
I PUT A COMPLETE • STOP • TO • IT!!!
ALL RIIIIIGHT!!
RHOOOON
GWA HA HA HA HA HA!!
IT WAS SO WORTH IT TO TAIL HER FOR THE ENTIRE DAY!!* TAKE THAT, KARASUMA YOU CREEP!!
*IT'S A CRIME, KIDS! DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME!
NEE-SAN, WASN'T THAT CHOCO-LATE FOR KARASUMA-KUN?
I GAVE MY CHOCOLATE TO KARASUMA-KUN YESTERDAY!
HE SAID HE COULDN'T COME TO SCHOOL TODAY
EH...?
IN THE END, I NEVER FOUND HIM.
AND I WANTED HARIMA-KUN TO HAVE IT, TOO.
IT'S TOO BAD I WASN'T ABLE TO GIVE HIM HIS CHOCOLATE.


PRIDE IN HIS WIN!
WHERE'S MY DINNER?!
AND ONE BOTTLE OF THE GOOD STUFF FOR ME TONIGHT!
HA HA
GA HA HA
ITOKO!
KACHAK
IT WAS A PERFECT PLAN, IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF!
IF IT ISN'T KENJI-KUN!
YOU'RE LOOKING HAPPY TONIGHT!
STOP YOUR YELLING!!
AND WHERE DO YOU RATE THE GOOD STUFF?!
HM? YÔKO-SAN.
WHEN DID YOU...
I KNOW WHAT DAY IT IS.
IT'S A DAY OF CONSTANT ANNOYANCES FOR WORKING PEOPLE!
IT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT DAY FOR LOVE IN A HIGH-SCHOOL STUDENT'S YEAR!
SEMPAI, REMEMBER WHAT TODAY IS?
DON'T SAY CREEPY THINGS LIKE THAT, YÔKO-SAN!
...BUT STILL YOU WANT SOMEBODY ELSE...
YOU'VE GOT SUCH A BEAUTIFUL OLDER WOMAN...
BUT YOU'RE SO GREEDY, KENJI-KUN!
SHK
DIDN'T HAPPEN!
I REMEMBER HOW MUCH I HAD TO HELP YOU AT THE TIME...
BUT YOU DID IT TOO, SEMPAI!
I SAID IT DIDN'T HAPPEN!!! WEREN'T YOU LISTENING?!
PON
OWW !!
WAIT A SECOND! I WANT TO HEAR DETAILS!!
YÔKO-SAN!

EVERY NOW AND AGAIN THAT GIRL...
...CAN BE SO INCREDIBLY STUBBORN!
YAKUMO MADE CHOCOLATE, TOO. SHE COULD GIVE IT TO HIM AT THE SAME TIME!
WHY DO I HAVE TO DO THIS ALONE?
HONESTLY!
GEEZ!
THEY SHOULD FIND MEN AND JUST GET MARRIED!!
CHAK
SO THEY'RE FINALLY ASLEEP
WHO CAN IT BE AT THIS HOUR?
HUH?
キンコーン
DINNG
DONNG
AND AT LEAST HAVE ONE GLASS OF...
NOW TO FINISH OFF ALL OF THE NABE THAT THEY LEFT.
AHHH!
OH!! HARIMA-KUN!!
KATAKA


HUUUH?!
WHAT IS TENMA-CHAN DOING AT MY PLACE?! DID SHE NOTICE I WAS TAILING HER?
NO!!
MY MOVEMENTS TODAY WERE PERFECT! SO THAT COULD ONLY MEAN THAT...



ALL RIIIIIGHT!!

SHE'S BROUGHT CHOCOLATES FOR ME?!

WAIT A SECOND! IF SHE COMES IN NOW
SHE COMES IN.
SHE SEES ITÔKO'S AND YOKO-SAN'S BOOTS.
SHE SAYS, "HARIMA-KUN, YOU ARE THE LOWEST MAN ON EARTH!!" AND HER MISTAKE LEADS TO THE SAME PATTERN WE'VE REPEATED OVER AND OVER AGAIN!!
KREE
BUT I CAN'T LET THE CHANCE SLIP AWAY!!
I MUST BE CALM!
WE CAN'T TALK OUT HERE! YOU MUST BE FREEZING! IF YOU'D LIKE, YOU'RE WELCOME TO COME IN.
YES, THANK YOU!
SORRY IT'S SO LATE.
HARIMA-KUN!
PHEW. I'VE GOTTEN PAST THE FIRST HURDLE...
?
YES, COME IN. COME IN.
BEND
TWIST
HIDING THE BOOTS.
DAMMIT!! I'VE BECOME DESENSITIZED, AND THIS IS THE PRICE I PAY!!
WHY DO YOU HAVE TWO TOOTH-BRUSHES?

YES, A PERFECT RETORT ON MY PART! WHAT'S NEXT?!! KEEP THEM COMING!!
SHUKKA
しゃか
しゃか
SHUKKA
WHEN I BRUSH, I GO BOTH WAYS!!
THAT DAMN WOMAN!! SHE DID IT ON PURPOSE!!
AND YOU HAVE WOMEN'S STOCK-INGS.
WHAT ABOUT THESE?
YES.
R-REALLY? I GUESS EVERY-BODY GOES THROUGH PHASES, HUH, HARIMA-KUN?
I... I WEAR THEM.
BEEP! I GO BOTH WAYS.
I THOUGHT FOR SURE THAT YOU HAD A WOMAN OR TWO HOLED UP IN HERE!
BUT IT SURE IS A SURPRISE!
KACHAK
ガラッ

MMM... I CAN'T EAT ANOTHER BITE...
SNOOORE
YOU SEE, I GO BOTH...
...THE LOWEST MAN ON EARTH!!
HARIMA-KUN, YOU ARE...
BUT IT SURE IS A SURPRISE THAT ITOKO-SENSEI IS HARIMA-KUN'S ITOKO COUSIN!
COME ON!! YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID SO FROM THE BEGINNING!!

Y-Yes. A Man Who Goes Both Ways.

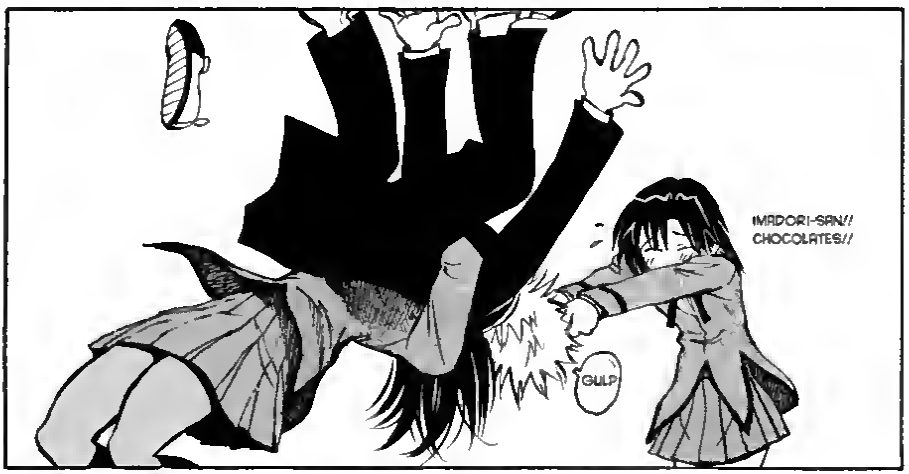
WE DON'T SAY ANYTHING BECAUSE IT WOULD ONLY CAUSE TROUBLE AT SCHOOL.
AND I'M ITOKO-SEMPAI'S KÔHAI FROM WAY BACK!
YOU GUYS GIVE ME NOTHING BUT GRIEF!!
TSK!
あはみみっ
AH HA HA HA HA
KENJI-KUN IS A FORTUNATE BOY!
IT MUST BE SO MUCH FUN LIVING WITH YOU, SENSEI!!
ALL STUDY AND NO PLAY...!!
かんぱーい
I'LL DRINK TO THAT!!
THE HECK WITH SCHOOL ANYWAY!
YOU'RE CORRUPTING TENMA-CHAN...
LET'S TALK ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE!!
WHAT ABOUT IT? THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS HAS RUN OUT LONG AGO ON THAT, RIGHT?
YOU STOLE KENJI-KUN'S FIRST KISS, DIDN'T YOU, SEMPAI?
...WHAT DO YOU THINK OF HARIMA-KUN, SENSEI...?
NYAA... BY THE WAY...
IT'S COLA!

ZZ ZZ ZZ
ZZ ZZ
WHAT DID YOU COME OVER FOR TONIGHT?
COME ON, TSUKAMOTO!
AW, WHO CARES!
.....
GREAT TIMING! I WAS JUST HUNGRY FOR SOMETHING SWEET!
LET'S JUST EAT IT AND BE THANKFUL!
SAY, SEMPAI! WHAT'S CHOCOLATE DOING HERE?
WHOSE IS IT, DO YOU SUPPOSE?
EH?!
MY ITOKO?!
OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT MAYBE
...SOMETHING LIKE, ITOKO-SENSEI IS MY COUSIN ITOKO.
AND THEN HARIMA-KUN SAID...
THE NEXT DAY...

YOUR FANS SENT A LOT THIS YEAR, TOO!
WOW... YOU'RE AS POPULAR AS EVER!!
どりさっ
SHUMPH
HERE YOU ARE, NIJŌ-SENSEI!
DID YOU RECEIVE THOSE YOURSELF?
MNCH
HM? WHAT ARE THOSE UGLY CHOCO-LATES?
MNCH
HM...
SINCE THOSE ARE THE ONLY ONES HE'S EATING, THEY MUST BE PRETTY GOOD.
THEY HAVE A VERY INTERESTING FLAVOR.
WH- WHY IS THIS CHOCOLATE CURRY FLAVORED?!
URRN... UHRN...
MY STOMACH...
RIGHT! THEN I'LL JUST TAKE ONE!
POIT

Those! Yes, He Did Receive Them.

Y-YEAH... BUT I JUST CAN'T SEEM TO GET THE TIMING RIGHT...
I'M SO NERVOUS...
OF COURSE! LEAVE EVERYTHING TO ME!
I HAVE A PLAN!
CHOCOLATES FOR IMADORI? YOU MUST GIVE THEM TO HIM AT ONCE, ICHI JÔ!



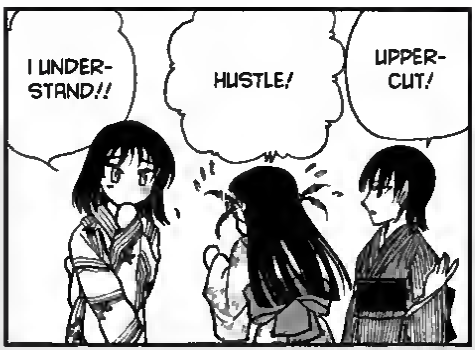
The Plan Is: Two-Platoon System.

 # 170 · · · · · · · · Fin

Short Rumble The Road To

The contestants and winners of the Second Panel contest!!

<Shimizu Team> Playing Sarah: Fukui Yukari-san



Q&A for Fukui-san

• What do you like about the character you play?
How she's so optimistic and smooth.

• What is a difference between yourself and your character?
The fact that she's a nun and Irish. (laughs) Other differences are that she's smooth and smart! (cries)

• Please notice this in *School Rumble Second Semester!*
I'm going around to shrines in order to make my heart as pure as Sarah's! I most want fans to watch the affection Sarah shows to Yakumo, and the slight devilishness she shows to Hanai-sempai.

VS.

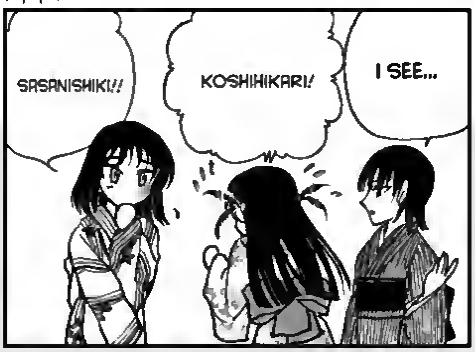
Q&A for Mako-san

• What do you like about the character you play?
The incredible difference between her outward appearance and inward abilities.

• What is a difference between yourself and your character?
The way she can smile even when she's sad.

• U-Um... This part in *School Rumble Second Semester*... Uh...
I see a purity to her character in the way her face never clouds over no matter how troubling the circumstances. I try to use Mako's warmth to show Karen's true *karen* ("sweetness") and personality. Right now, I'm a minor player, but I'm taking training to turn my voice into something major. I want everyone to feel Karen's gentleness.

<Kawada Team> Playing Ichijô: Mako-san



The Winner

<Shimizu Team> Fukui Yukari-san! ☆

"The Road to Short Rumble" continues on page 81 with panel 3...

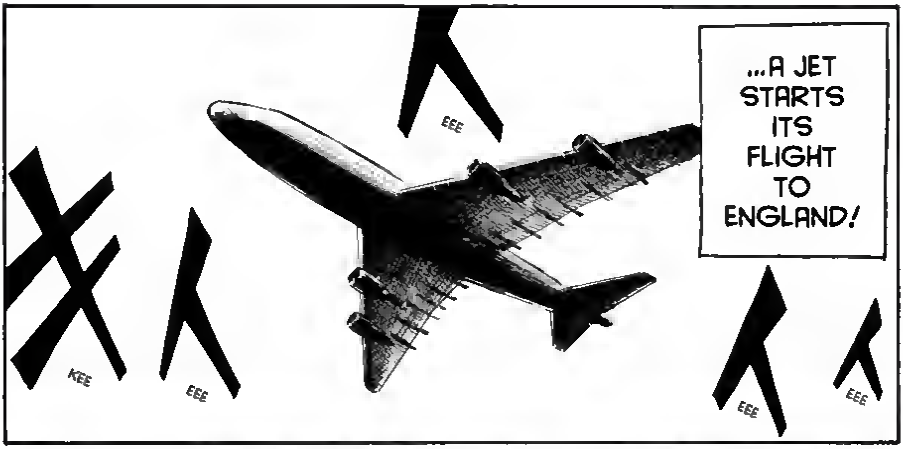
#171 AN OFFICER AND A GENTLEMAN

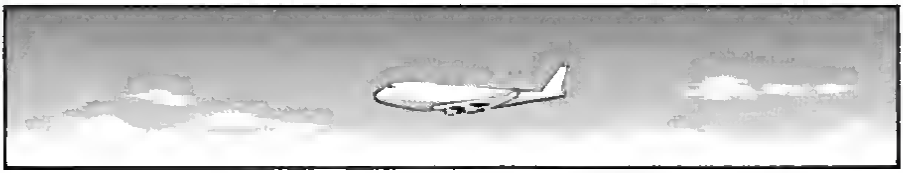
KEE
EEE
EEE
NN
...FOR PERU WILL BE BOARDING AT GATE 21 AT 10:20 A.M....
..FROM NARITA TO ATLANTA WITH STOPS AT...
EVERY NOW AND AGAIN, OUR SCHOOL DOES SOMETHING WORTH-WHILE.
CHATTER
YEAH! WE'RE GOING FOREIGN!!
CHATTER
WOW... AN OVERSEAS TRIP...
CHATTER
I KNOW EXACTLY HOW YOU FEEL, SISTER!! IT STIRS THE HEART, DOESN'T IT?!
A-ACTUALLY, THIS IS MY OVERSEAS DEBUT!
I THOUGHT I'D NEVER MAKE IT OUT OF THE COUNTRY!

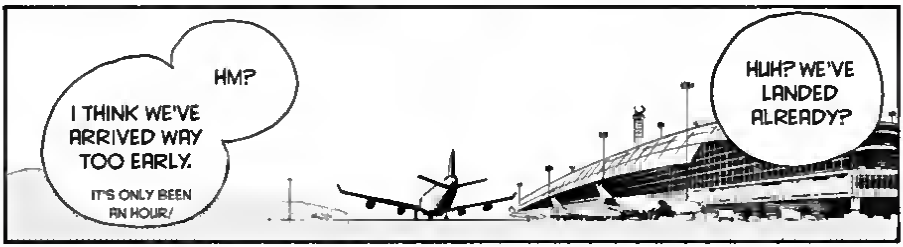
TAP TAP ちょい ちょい
AH... YOSHI-DAYAMA-KU...
HEY, NARA!
LET ME STUDY THIS GUIDE BOOK ONE LAST TIME!
TH-THIS ISN'T GOOD! I'M SO NERVOUS!
I WANTED TO SHOW THOSE ENGLISH THAT WE JAPANESE CAN'T BE TAKEN LIGHTLY!!
EH... ARE THEY TRYING TO BE THE BEATLES...?
YESTERDAY DAS.
DON'T LOSE IT NOW!
ONLY A FOOL PASSES HIMSELF OFF AS SOMETHING HE ISN'T!
I DON'T... I COULDN'T... IT'S SO SUDDEN...
HEY! BECKHAM! YOU THINK WE'LL SEE BECKHAM?
YOU'RE GOING TO SCORE YOURSELF ONE IMADORI-KUN, AREN'T YOU, ICHIJŌ!!
ONLY ONE MONTH UNTIL THE END OF OUR SECOND YEAR! THIS TRIP WILL DECIDE EVERYTHING, TENMA-CHAN!!
WITH A WIDE VARIETY OF HOPES AND DREAMS ABOARD...
SHK
YOU WILL NEVER BE ALLOWED TO SET FOOT ON JAPANESE SOIL AGAIN!
GOT IT?
ASŌ! IF YOU'RE THINKING OF SLIPPING OFF WITH SUŌ..
SH-SHUT UP!

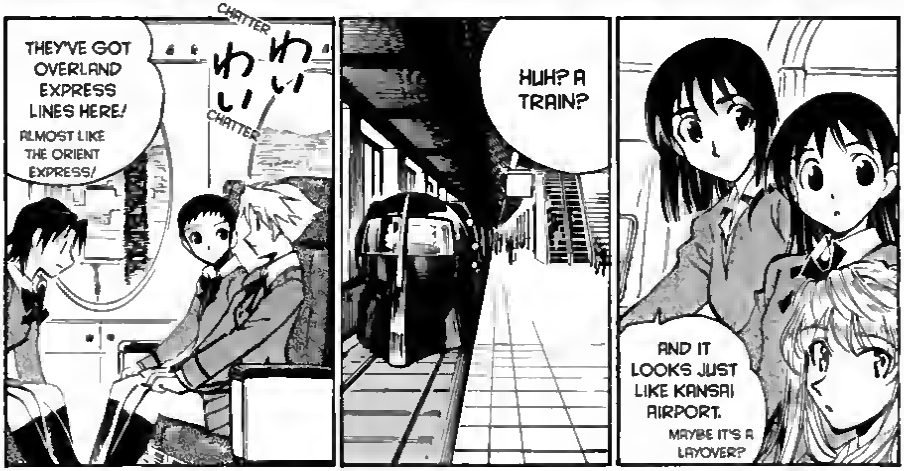
Still, We Can Sympathize with Their Excitement.

After All, It Is England.



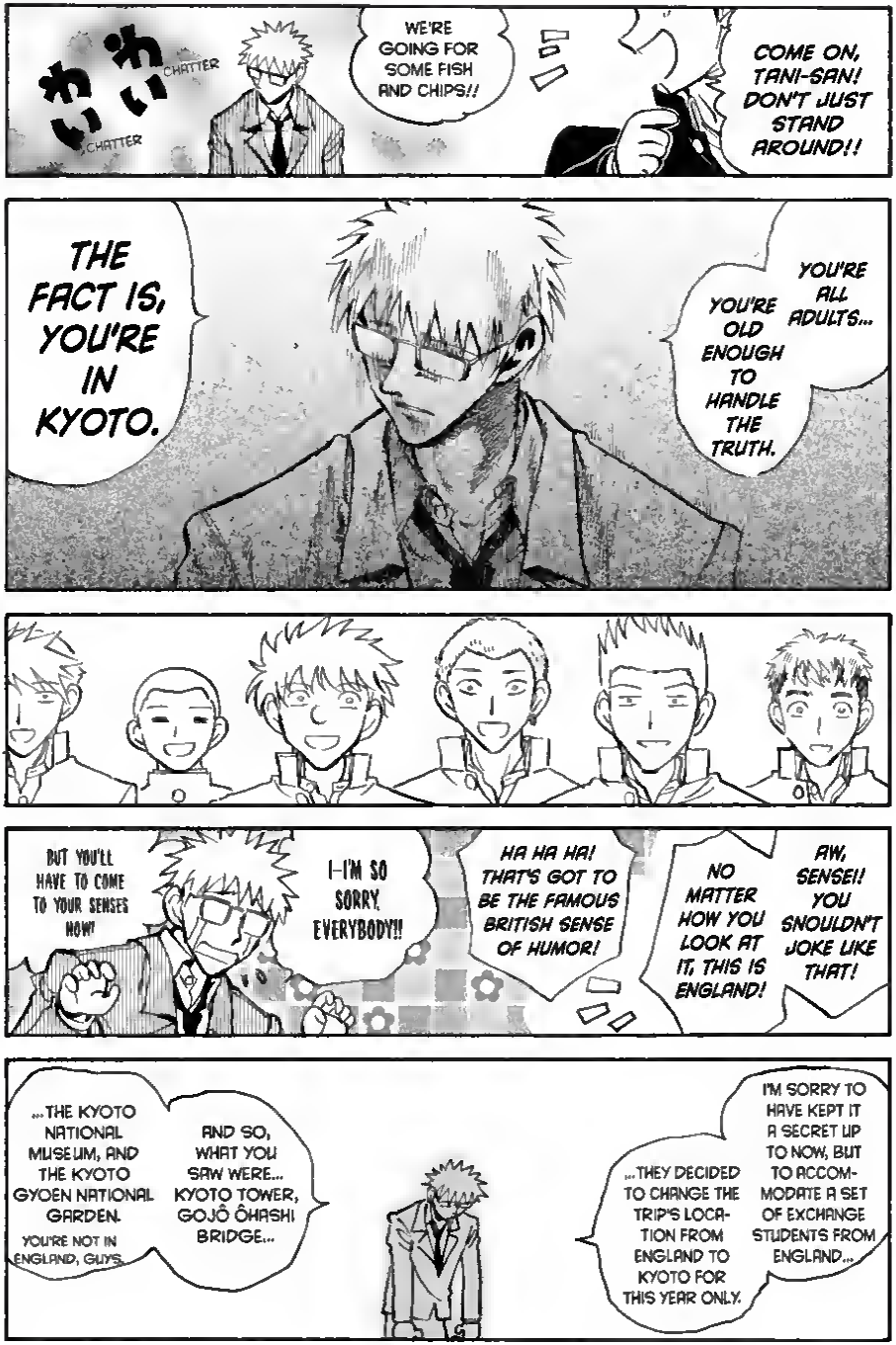






KANSAI AIRPORT = OSAKA AIRPORT

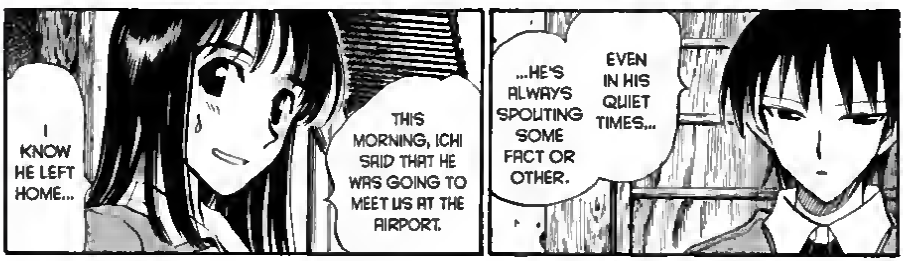
YAY!
WELCOME TO ENGLAND !!
ALL RIGHT!! WE'RE HERE!!
OHH!! LONDON BRIDGE!!
WOW!! THERE'S BIG BEN!!
I GOT A PICTURE OF AKIRA-CHAN AND BUCKINGHAM CASTLE!!
LOOK OVER THERE, ERI-CHAN/ THE BRITISH NATIONAL MUSEUM!!
THAT'S WHAT I LOVE ABOUT ENGLAND!!
OH, LOOK, LOOK!!
THEY'RE BOND GIRLS!!

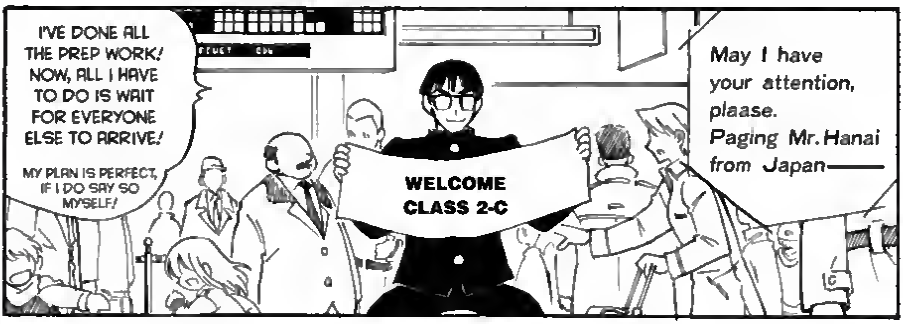

CHATTER
CHATTER
WE'RE GOING FOR SOME FISH AND CHIPS!!
COME ON, TANI-SAN! DON'T JUST STAND AROUND!!
THE FACT IS, YOU'RE IN KYOTO.
YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO HANDLE THE TRUTH.
YOU'RE ALL ADULTS...
BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO COME TO YOUR SENSES NOW!
I-I'M SO SORRY, EVERYBODY!!
HA HA HA! THAT'S GOT TO BE THE FAMOUS BRITISH SENSE OF HUMOR!
NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, THIS IS ENGLAND!
AW, SENSEI! YOU SHOULDN'T JOKE LIKE THAT!
...THE KYOTO NATIONAL MUSEUM, AND THE KYOTO GYOEN NATIONAL GARDEN.
YOU'RE NOT IN ENGLAND, GUYS.
AND SO, WHAT YOU SAW WERE... KYOTO TOWER, GOJÔ ÔHASHI BRIDGE...
...THEY DECIDED TO CHANGE THE TRIP'S LOCATION FROM ENGLAND TO KYOTO FOR THIS YEAR ONLY.
I'M SORRY TO HAVE KEPT IT A SECRET UP TO NOW, BUT TO ACCOMMODATE A SET OF EXCHANGE STUDENTS FROM ENGLAND...

DO YOU THINK WE'D ACCEPT AN EXPLANATION LIKE THAT?!
HAVE YOU ANY IDEA HOW MUCH SOME OF US HAVE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS DAY?!
B-BUT... KYOTO'S A NICE PLACE, TOO! IT'S GOT LOTS OF HISTORY...
YOU FOOL!!
YOU THINK YOU CAN LEAD US DOWN THIS GARDEN PATH SO EASILY?!
Y-YOU'RE MY STUDENT. YOU SHOULDN'T BE CALLING YOUR TEACHER A FOOL...
THAT'S AMAZING !!
IT'S EVEN MORE IMPRESSIVE THAN WHEN I SAW IT ON TV!!
HEY!! CAN YOU GUYS HEAR ME?!
YOU LOOK LIKE ANTS DOWN THERE!
SAY, IS THAT BUILDING OVER THERE KYOTO STATION?
YAAY
わい
YAAY
THEY CERTAINLY SEEM TO BE HAVING FUN.
WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE THEY CAN ACCEPT MY EXPLANATION.
I'M GLAD I'VE GOT SUCH TOLERANT STUDENTS.

And So England, Under Closer Examination, Is Kyoto.

HEY, I HEAR THERE ARE FIFTEEN ROCKS IN THE GARDEN!!
WOW! IT'S SO ELEGANT HERE!!
COME ON, MIKO-CHAN! WEREN'T YOU LISTENING TO ME?
1, 2, 3... UM, I COUNT ONLY THIRTEEN!
HUH? AREN'T THERE ONLY FOURTEEN?
SHE'S FORCING IT...


I KNOW HE LEFT HOME...
THIS MORNING, ICHI SAID THAT HE WAS GOING TO MEET US AT THE AIRPORT.
...HE'S ALWAYS SPOUTING SOME FACT OR OTHER.
EVEN IN HIS QUIET TIMES...


I'VE DONE ALL THE PREP WORK! NOW, ALL I HAVE TO DO IS WAIT FOR EVERYONE ELSE TO ARRIVE!
MY PLAN IS PERFECT, IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF!
WELCOME CLASS 2-C
May I have your attention, plaase. Paging Mr. Hanai from Japan——

Hanai: Taking His Own Individual School Trip.

171 · · · · · · · · · Fin

ENGLAND, HEATHROW AIRPORT...
Paging Mr.Hanai from Japan——————
I'LL BET THAT PROBLEM CHILD OF OUR CLASS SCREWED UP SOMEHOW!
HE'S MESSED UP THE SCHOOL TRIP SCHEDULE!
OKAY, NOW TO CHECK AGAIN...
I DON'T CARE WHAT THEIR EXCUSE IS, THEY'RE WAY TOO LATE!!
THEY'RE LATE!
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT YOUR SELFISH WANDERINGS COST THE CLASS IN TIME AND EFFORT?!
THERE'S NO CURE FOR HIM!!
YOU CREEP, HARIMA KENJI!!
GRRRR
SO THEY'RE FINALLY HERE...
DID YOU SAY "HARRY MCKENZIE"?
HM...?
WHA—?! WHO ARE YOU...!!

#172 LO STRANIERO

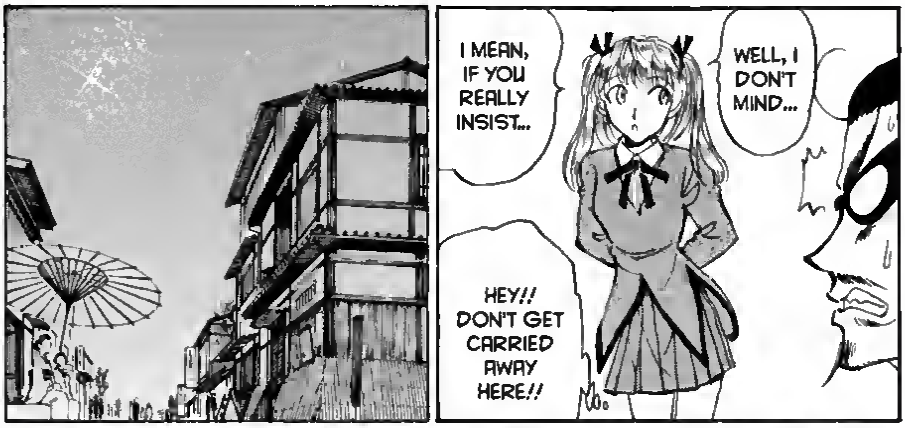
KYOTO. THE YAGAMI HIGH SCHOOL'S HOTEL.
HEY! I THINK YOU BOUGHT TOO MANY SOUVENIRS FOR THE FIRST DAY!
わいわい
CHATTER
わいわい
CHATTER
PHEW! TIME JUST FLEW PAST TODAY, HUH?
OUT OF THE WAY!! WE ARE THE IMPERIAL ADVANCE TROOPS!!
きゃあああーっ
KYAAA
BLOW DRYER
I DON'T EVER WANT TO END UP LIKE THAT!
OH, HOW SUGA HAS FALLEN!
WE ARE HERE TO DISBAND THOSE SHAMELESS COUPLES!!
IT IS FUN, BUT IT WOULD BE A BLAST IF I WASN'T ALONE!!
THIS WORLD JUST ISN'T FAIR!
TSK
DAMMIT!! ALL I SEE ARE COUPLES AROUND HERE!!
LET'S GO TO MISAWA'S ROOM. I HEAR THEY'VE GOT A MAHJONG GAME GOING.

MEANWHILE, AT THE YASUI KONPIRAGU SHRINE...
GOOD. NOBODY'S HERE.
SHK
...AND YOUR WISH WILL COME TRUE.
REALLY ?!
RIKIYA-CHAN, YOU KNOW EVERYTHING!
...AND ATTACH IT TO THAT MONUMENT WITH THE TUNNEL OVER THERE...
DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS? YOU WRITE YOUR SPECIAL SOMEONE'S NAME ON ONE OF THE SHEETS OF PAPER NEXT TO YOUR OWN...
EWPAN
EWPAN
B-BMP
B-BMP
B-BMP
B-BMP
I WAS TOO EMBARRASSED TO DO ANYTHING THIS AFTER-NOON.
THAT SHOULD DO.
WRITE THE SPECIAL SOME-ONE'S NAME...
SKRTCH SKRTCH
B-BMP B-BMP
THAT'S THE ONE...?

BEARD?
WH-WHO DROPPED THIS SCRAP OF PAPER IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?!
WHOAH !!
P-PRINCESS !!
WHAT'S GOT YOU SO WORKED UP?
THAT DAMN PRINCESS!! JUST HOW FAR WILL YOU GO TO INTERFERE WITH MY PLANS?!
IT'S LIKE SHE WAS BORN TO GIVE ME TROUBLE!!
N-NOTHING! I-I JUST WANTED TO EXPERIENCE A LITTLE HISTORY...
I-IT'S JUST AN EVENING WALK!
REALLY? YOU WALK TO SOME OUT-OF-THE-WAY PLACES, HUH?

EH...?
YOU WANT TO GO FOR A WALK WITH ME?
HEY, LISTEN...
A-ANYWAY, I SHOULD GET HER OUT OF HERE AS FAST AS I CAN!!

IT ALMOST SOUNDS LIKE I INVITED THE PRINCESS OUT OR SOMETHING!!
WHAT AM I SAYING?!
HUMP
はあ?


I MEAN, IF YOU REALLY INSIST...
WELL, I DON'T MIND...
HEY!! DON'T GET CARRIED AWAY HERE!!

.....
.....

NOW IF IT WERE ONLY TENMA-CHAN...
WHAT?
WHY DO I HAVE TO WALK THROUGH THE NIGHT WITH THIS SPOILED BRAT?!
SIGH...
NOTH-ING.
SAY, BEARD...
...THIS IS GETTING BORING.
TAKE ME SOME-PLACE FUN.
I ARRIVED ONLY A FEW MOMENTS AGO IN THIS MOMENTOUS CAPITAL CITY... DOSUE!
...Dosue.
WE'RE WALKING TOGETHER, BUT...
HUH? DON'T GIVE ME CRAP!!
WHY IS IT MY JOB TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE HAVING A GOOD TIME?!
BECAUSE AT TIMES LIKE THIS...
...IT'S TRADI-TIONAL FOR THE MAN TO TAKE THE LEAD. IT'S WHAT'S EXPECTED.

HEY, DO YOU THINK SOMEONE IS BEHIND US?
.....
YEAH... I'VE BEEN GETTING THAT FEELING, TOO.
.....
SST
YOU!! COME OUT HERE!!
DAMMIT! I THOUGHT I'D BE LEFT IN PEACE AT LEAST AS LONG AS THE SCHOOL TRIP LASTED.
WHA—?!
WHUD

SLUMP
IT'S GLASSES ?!
WH- WHO'S THERE?!
I HAVE ARRIVED THIS MOMENT IN THIS MOMENTOUS CAPITAL CITY... DOSUE!
SHK
SO YOU KNOW YOUR PUN WAS BAD?
BUT WHAT IS HIS CLORK FOR?
HUH?
WHO'D LAUGH AT THAT JOKE?

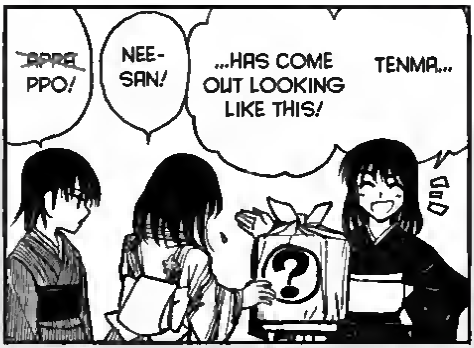
Minute, Secondary Capital...Sorry.

172 · · · · · · · · · Fin

Short Rumble The Road To

The contestants and winners of the Third Panel contest!!

<Shimizu Team> Playing Sawachika: Horie Yui-san



Q&A for Horie-san

• What do you like about the character you play?
How she's like a princess! ♡

• What is a difference between yourself and your character?
What's different is that she's a princess. (laughs) What's the same is that we both hate to lose.

• *School Rumble Second Semester!* Watch this part or else! Right now, new characters are being introduced one after the other, and it's starting to look like a real class. I'd like the viewers to watch it as it they were one of the character's classmates! It's fun to have so many people, but it's getting harder and harder to get to the microphone!

VS

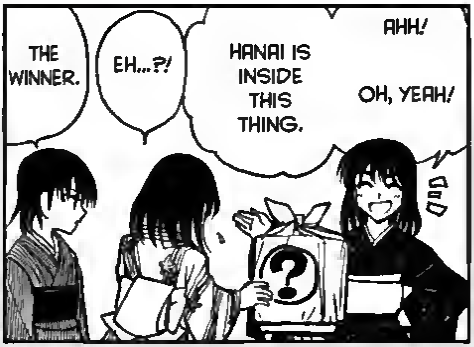
Q&A for Koshimizu-san

• What do you like about the character you play?
The way she's single-minded and so straightforward!

• What is a difference between yourself and your character?
Tenma can shoot arrows from moving vehicles. I can't.

• Watch this part in *School Rumble Second Semester* real closely now! Before I ever start to play Tenma, I try to be sure I'm as high-energy as I possibly can be.

<Kawada Team> Playing Tenma: Koshimizu Ami-san



The Winner

<Kawada Team> Koshimizu Ami-san! ☆

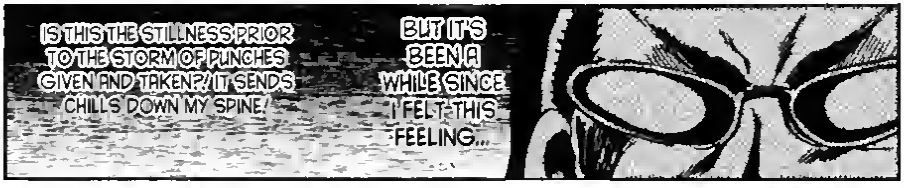
◀ "The Road to Short Rumble" continues on page 91 with panel 4

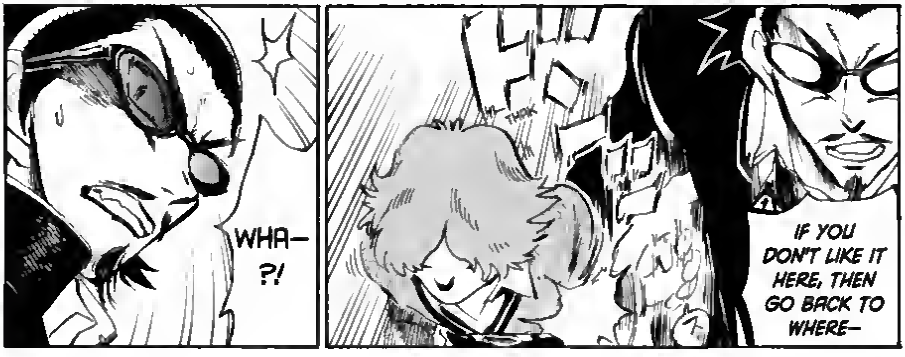
RIIIP
DWOO OOO
HUUUU!!
TH-THERE'S NO ANGRY GUY T-TO SLAP ME? C-COMEDY IS D-DEAD IN JAPAN.
R-RND WITH THIS CROWD, I'M DYING, TOO!

WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY, YOU CREEP?!
AND WHAT'S WITH ALL OF THE BAD PUNS?!
H-HE'S BIG!!
Y-YOU DON'T SUPPOSE HE'S SOME KIND OF PERVERT, DO YOU?
Y-YOU DON'T DESERVE TO L-LIVE IN THE L-LAND OF MANZAI!

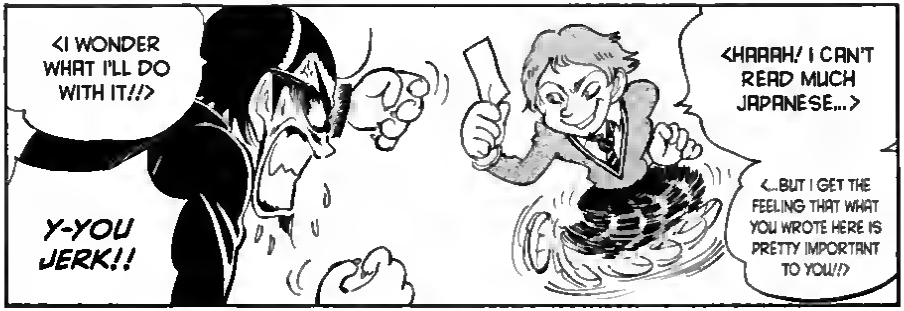
...THE LEAST YOU CAN SAY ABOUT HIM IS THAT HE'S NOT THE STANDARD PROFILE OF A PERVERT!
I DON'T THINK SO. IF YOU SEE WHAT HE DID TO GLASSES...

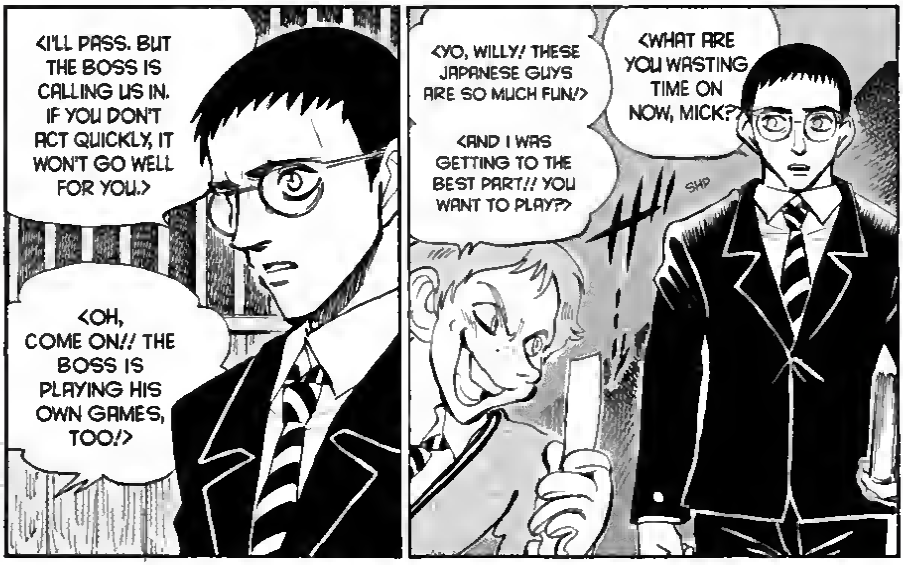
PRINCESS, I WANT YOU TO TAKE A FEW STEPS BACK.
HUH...?
IT LOOKS LIKE KYOTO'S REPUTATION OF BEING POPULAR WITH THE FOREIGNERS IS TRUE.


IS THIS THE STILLNESS PRIOR TO THE STORM OF PUNCHES GIVEN AND TAKEN? IT SENDS CHILLS DOWN MY SPINE.
BUT IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I FELT THIS FEELING...


WHA—?!
THUK
IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT HERE, THEN GO BACK TO WHERE—

From This "*" Point On, We'll Just Translate Everything Said.


<I WONDER WHAT I'LL DO WITH IT!!>
Y-YOU JERK!!
<HAAAH! I CAN'T READ MUCH JAPANESE...>
<...BUT I GET THE FEELING THAT WHAT YOU WROTE HERE IS PRETTY IMPORTANT TO YOU!!>


<I'LL PASS. BUT THE BOSS IS CALLING US IN. IF YOU DON'T ACT QUICKLY, IT WON'T GO WELL FOR YOU.>
<OH, COME ON!! THE BOSS IS PLAYING HIS OWN GAMES, TOO!>
<YO, WILLY! THESE JAPANESE GUYS ARE SO MUCH FUN!>
<AND I WAS GETTING TO THE BEST PART!! YOU WANT TO PLAY?>
<WHAT ARE YOU WASTING TIME ON NOW, MICK?
SHP

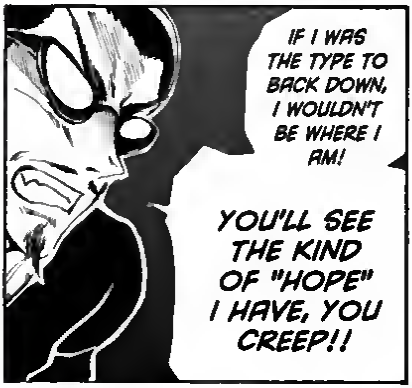
<IT IS NOT FORGOTTEN.>
<AND A LADY SHOULD NOT BE LEFT STANDING OUT ON A COLD STREET. THAT IS PRECISELY WHY WE ARE HERE.>
<YOU SHOULD BE DEALING WITH ME FIRST!! OR DO YOU FORGET THE RULE OF "LADIES FIRST" THE MINUTE YOU STEP FOOT ON FOREIGN SOIL?>
<WAIT JUST A MINUTE!!>
<HM?>

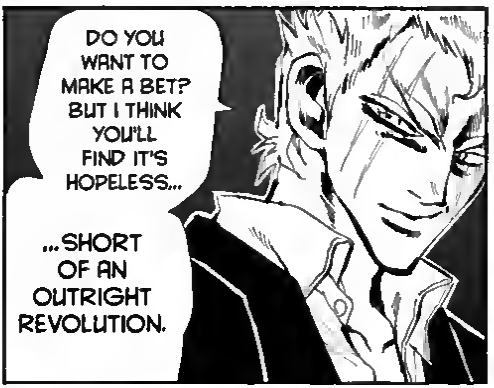
YAGAMI HIGH SCHOOL'S HOTEL.
KYAA!! LOOK AT ME!!
わい CHATTER
わい CHATTER
HEY, NO PUSHING!! WAIT YOUR TURN!!
<NO, THEY'RE HERE TO SEE YOU, JOHN. THEY MEAN WELL, SO DON'T TAKE ANY OFFENSE.>
<OH! SO THIS IS THE GION FESTIVAL I'VE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT?>
<EXACTLY. IT IS THE FATE OF US NATIVE JAPANESE TO PUT ON SUCH DISPLAYS.>
<IT IS A JAPANESE TRAIT.>
HE'S SOOOOO COOL!!
HE'S SO THIN! HIS LEGS ARE SO LONG! HIS EYES ARE SO BLUE! HIS HAIR IS SO BLOND!
HE'S PRETTIER THAN MOST GIRLS!!
TEAMED WITH HARRY, THERE'S NO STOPPING THEM!!
<HA HA! WELL, IT'S PRETTY MUCH WHAT I'VE COME TO SEE, TOO!>
Harry Is a Foreign Student. Tôgô Is Japanese Recently Returned to Japan. Just So You Know.

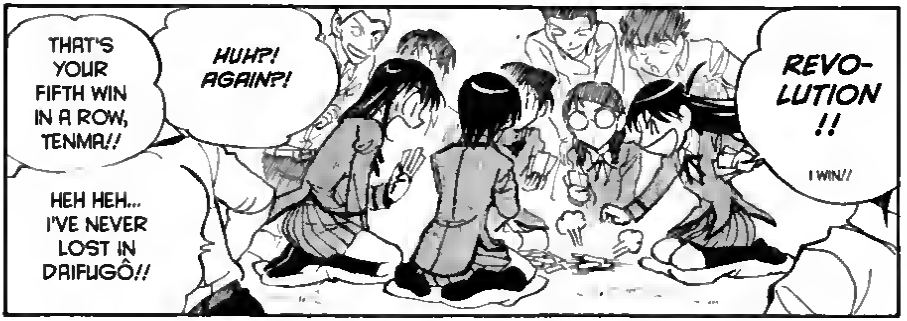
(Note) Everyone but Harima Is Speaking English.

<IT'S YOU!!?
<WHY WOULD YOU COME ALL THE WAY HERE?>
YES.
I KNEW MAX WHEN I LIVED IN ENGLAND.
OH, YEAH. YOU USED TO BE...
WHAT'S THIS? PRINCESS, DO YOU KNOW THEM?
<REALLY?!>
<WHO'D HAVE THOUGHT I'D GET ANOTHER GAME TO PLAY SO QUICKLY?!>
<I HEAR YOU WERE IN THE SAME CLASS WHEN THE BOSS WAS IN JUNIOR HIGH.>
<OH, HO...>
<SO THAT'S THE WAY THINGS ARE...?>
GRIMP
IF YOU KNOW THAT, IT SAVES US A LOT OF WASTED TIME EXPLAINING. NOW, GIVE IT BACK TO ME!
<I'D SAY IT LOOKS LIKE SOME KIND OF LOVE CHARM.>
<I THINK I'LL TAKE A LOOK AT THIS CHARM. HA HA HA...>

<WHA—?!>
<SO HE'S YOUR KNIGHT PROTECTOR ON THIS ISLAND, HUH?>
<YOU'VE BECOME HIGH AND MIGHTY, HAVEN'T YOU, HALF-JAPANESE?>
<WH-WH-WH-WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?!>
COME ON!! TRANSLATE FOR ME HERE!!
<HM... YOU CAN MAKE FACES LIKE THAT NOW, CAN YOU?>
<WELL, IT DOESN'T MATTER. I'M GOING TO HANG ON TO THIS FOR A WHILE.>
HOLD IT, YOU CREEP!!
<DON'T GIVE ME THAT!! THAT WAS THEN, THIS IS NOW!!>
<LISTEN TO YOU HOWL! YOU'VE GOTTEN SOME BACKBONE IN JAPAN.>
<YOU CAN FACE NATIVE BRITS AND LOSE THAT FAMOUS TEMERITY OF YOURS??
<HM?>







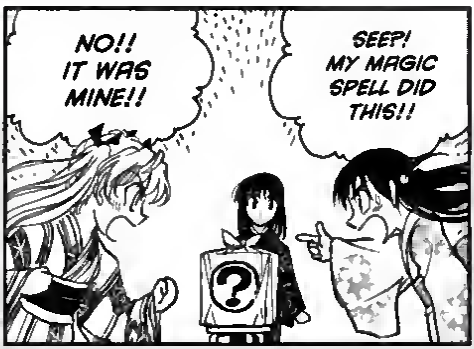
173 · · · · · · · · · Fin

Let's Call This Plot Twist a Revolution.

Short Rumble The Road To

The contestants and winners of the Fourth Panel contest!!

<Shimizu Team> Playing Harima: Takahashi Hiroki-san



Q&A for Takahashi-san

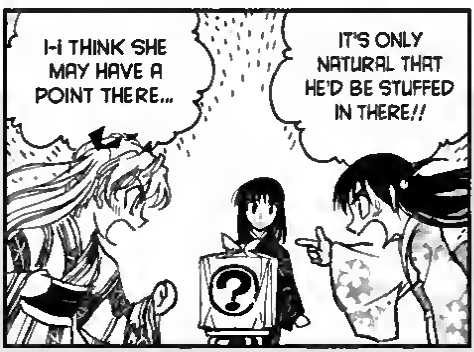
• What do you like about the character you play?
The way he goes in one straight line.

• What is a difference between yourself and your character?
I don't normally wear sunglasses.

• Hey! Watch this part of *School Rumble Second Semester*!! I'm going to give this everything I've got, just like I always do. But the number of available speaking parts outnumbers the number of actors to play them, so right now is the hardest time for me. (laughs)
But I must say that for this series, be sure to watch Lala! She's the most popular in the dubbing sessions, too!

VS.

<Kawada Team> Playing Yakumo: Noto Mamiko-san



Q&A for Noto-san

• What do you like about the character you play?
The feeling she gives off. And her devotion to her sister.

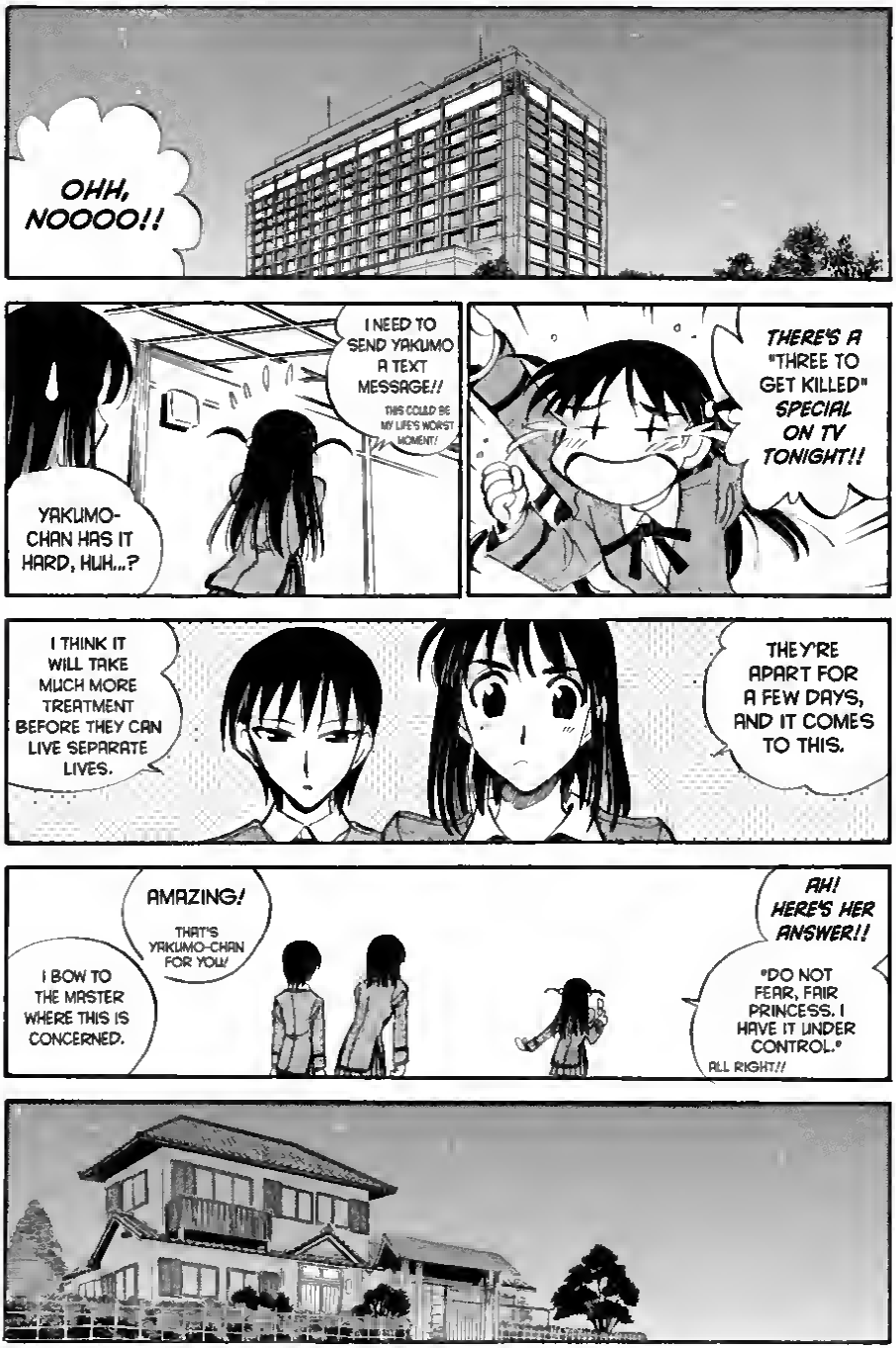
• What is a difference between yourself and your character?
I can't read other people's minds. (laughs)

• Um... if you don't mind... This part of *School Rumble Second Semester* is...
There are so many people showing up, I really like the tempo of the series. So I think the speed at which the gags come one after the other is something to watch. And the bittersweet love triangles!!

The Winner

<Shimizu Team> Takahashi Hiroki-san! ☆

THE CONTEST'S ONE-ON-ONE SECTION COMES OUT TIED!! NOW TURN TO PANEL 5!!
(FIND IT ON PAGE 161)
◀ "THE ROAD TO SHORT RUMBLE" CONTINUES ON PAGE 101...


OHH, NOOOO!!
I NEED TO SEND YAKUMO A TEXT MESSAGE!!
THIS COULD BE MY LIFE'S WORST MOMENT!
YAKUMO-CHAN HAS IT HARD, HUH...?
THERE'S A "THREE TO GET KILLED" SPECIAL ON TV TONIGHT!!
I THINK IT WILL TAKE MUCH MORE TREATMENT BEFORE THEY CAN LIVE SEPARATE LIVES.
THEY'RE APART FOR A FEW DAYS, AND IT COMES TO THIS.
AMAZING!
THAT'S YAKUMO-CHAN FOR YOU!
I BOW TO THE MASTER WHERE THIS IS CONCERNED.
AH! HERE'S HER ANSWER!!
"DO NOT FEAR, FAIR PRINCESS. I HAVE IT UNDER CONTROL."
ALL RIGHT!!

#174 THE INVISIBLE CIRCLE

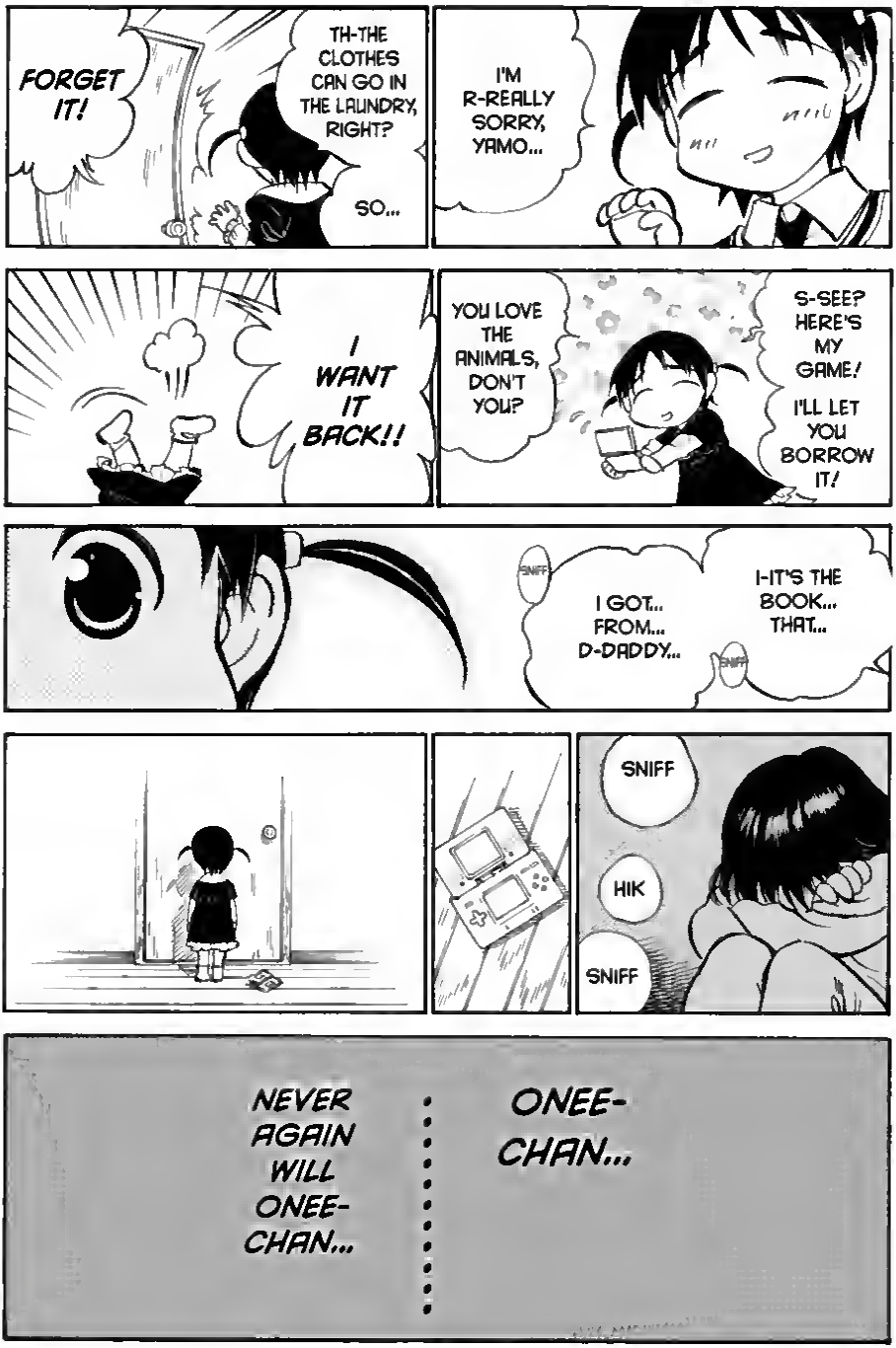
A More Silent Tsukamoto Household Than Usual.

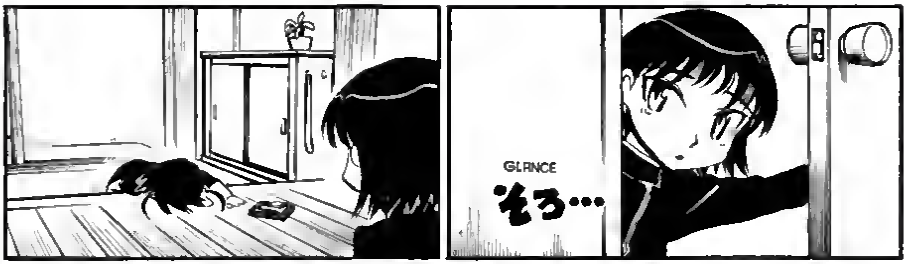
AH.
GLUB GLUB

YAMO!!
...AMO!!
YAMO!!
I DON'T LIKE BEING CALLED "YAMO"!
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU?!
WHAT'RE YOU MAD AT?
YAMO?
ESPECIALLY YOU!! YOU'RE THE LAST PERSON WHO SHOULD CALL ME THAT, ONEE-CHAN!
MY NAME IS YA-KU-MO!! STOP CALLING ME BABY NAMES!!
SEE? THERE YOU GO AGAIN!!
THAT'S WHY THE OTHER KIDS ALWAYS PICK ON US!!
WAAAH!
YAM... YAKUMO...
WHY DO YOU HAVE TO BE THAT WAY?

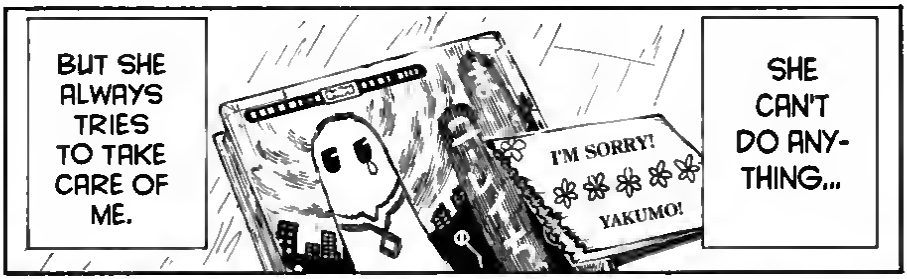
JUST DON'T CALL ME "YAMO"!!
I TOLD YOU...!!
I'M SORRY, YAMO!
LET ME HELP YOU WITH YOUR PICTURE-DRAWING HOMEWORK!!
YAMO!
AHH...!!
OH, DON'T BE THAT WAY! HERE!
LET ME BORROW THAT BRUSH!
NO WAY, ONEE-CHAN! IF YOU TOUCH IT...
...IT'LL GET ALL RUINED, LIKE ALWAYS!!
I'M SORRY, YAMO!
WAAAAH!
I HAD A NICE PICTURE BEFORE YOU CAME ALONG!!
I'M SORRY!
GLOOM
I TOLD YOU!!
ONEE-CHAN, YOU BIG DUMMY!!
HUH...? MAYBE IT CAN BE FISH EGGS...
WAAAAAH
NO!!
DON'T YOU DARE!!
YOU'RE DOING CLAY NOW?
I'LL MAKE A LION FOR YOU!

I TRIED TO WASH IT...
U-UM... THE BOOK GOT DIRTY...
YAMO...?
YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING RIGHT!!
AND YOU ALWAYS MESS UP MY STUFF!!
NEVER COME NEAR ME AGAIN!!
ONEE-CHAN, WHY...
...DO YOU EVEN COME NEAR ME?
I DON'T...
I DON'T EVEN HAVE AN ONEE-CHAN ANY-MORE!!


FORGET IT!
TH-THE CLOTHES CAN GO IN THE LAUNDRY, RIGHT?
SO...
I'M R-REALLY SORRY, YAMO...
I WANT IT BACK!!
YOU LOVE THE ANIMALS, DON'T YOU?
S-SEE? HERE'S MY GAME!
I'LL LET YOU BORROW IT!
SNIFF
I GOT... FROM... D-DADDY...
I-IT'S THE BOOK... THAT...
SNIFF
SNIFF
HIK
SNIFF
NEVER AGAIN WILL ONEE-CHAN...
ONEE-CHAN...



WHY...? WHY DOES ONEE-CHAN EVEN COME NEAR ME?



Little Lost Ghost
IT WAS AN EXPENSIVE BOOK, BUT SHE BOUGHT ME A NEW ONE ANYWAY--
NEE-SAN...
PROPERTY OF THE YAGAMI LIBRARY
• NOT TO LEAVE THE PREMISES.
I'M GOING TO HAVE TO RETURN IT...

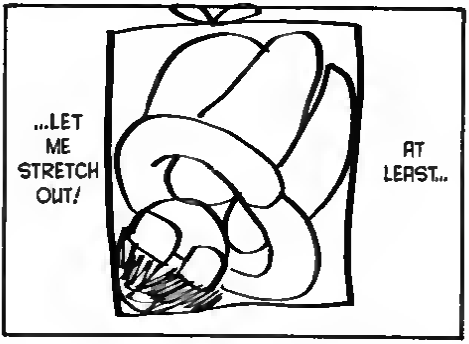
174 . . . . . Fin

Short Rumble The Road To

From here on, we'll be taking a look at those "Original Fifth Panel Manga" that the contestants drew, which came oh-so-close but were eventually dumped. (Ah! Excuse the bad choice of words.) Yet we still run them in this book, huh...?

Written and Illustrated by Koshimizu Ami

Our lead-off hitter is this person!!

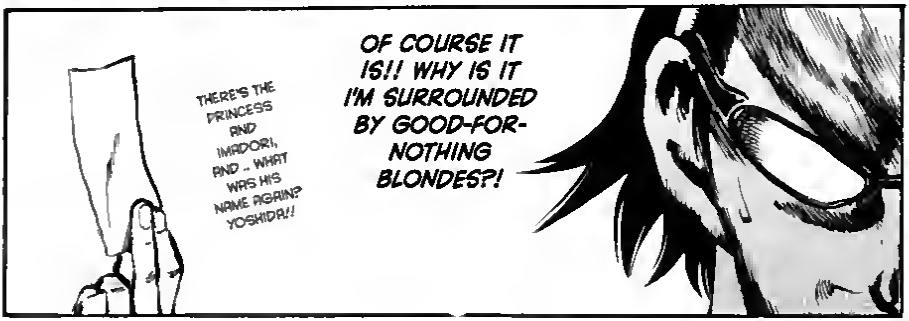


KOBAYASHI JIN'S COMMENTS

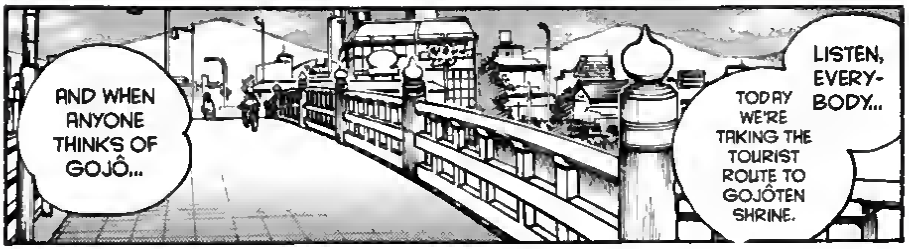
This is Hanai's punishment. Any male who tries to put the moves on Yakumo will be turned upside down and stuffed in a box! She's drawn Hanai's lonely look as he hugs his knees so well! She's also really captured what makes him special. Well, what more can one expect from the star of the series?! If I don't polish up my act, you'll think she captured the character better than I can!

"The Road to Short Rumble" continues on page 111...

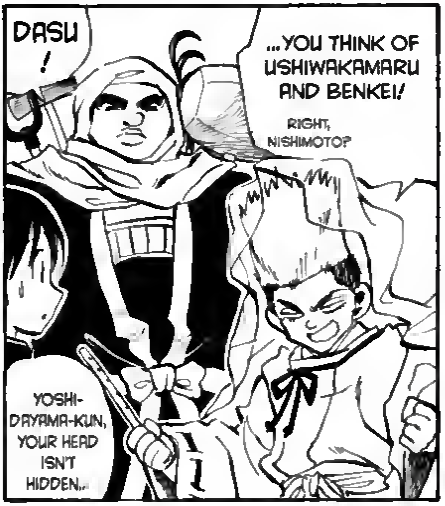
#175 THE THING

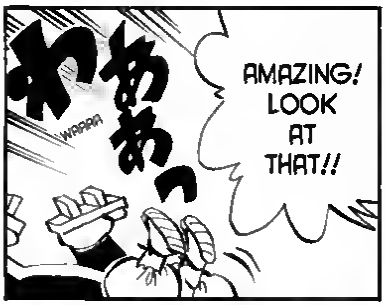

THERE'S THE PRINCESS AND IMADORI, AND .. WHAT WAS HIS NAME AGAIN? YOSHIDA!!
OF COURSE IT IS!! WHY IS IT I'M SURROUNDED BY GOOD-FOR-NOTHING BLONDES?!

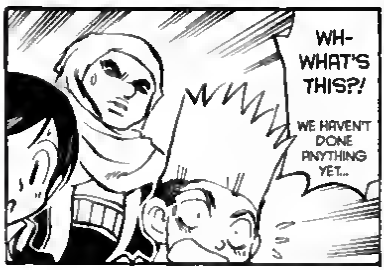
IF YOU'RE COMING AT ME, THEN COME ON!!
ARE YOU JUST GOING TO SCREECH? ANY APE CAN DO THAT.
YOU JERK!!
IS PAIN THE ONLY THING THAT'S GOING TO GET THROUGH TO YOU?!
SHKK
GWOOOHH!!
DMP

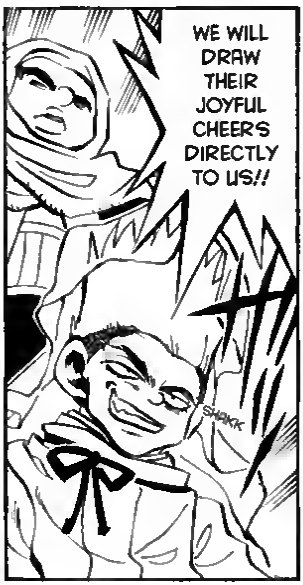

LISTEN, EVERY-BODY...
TODAY WE'RE TAKING THE TOURIST ROUTE TO GOJÔTEN SHRINE.
AND WHEN ANYONE THINKS OF GOJÔ...

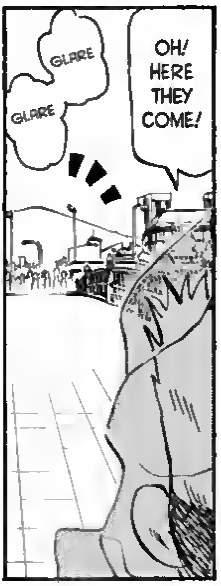
JUST AS THEY DID IN HISTORY, THIS'LL HELP US STEAL THE SPOTLIGHT, EVEN IN A FREE-FOR-ALL!
I PLANNED THIS OUT SO WELL, I EVEN SCARE MYSELF!


DASH!
...YOU THINK OF USHIWAKAMARU AND BENKEI!
RIGHT, NISHIMOTO?
YOSHI-DAYAMA-KUN, YOUR HEAD ISN'T HIDDEN...


わあっ
WAAA
AMAZING! LOOK AT THAT!!


WH-WHAT'S THIS?!
WE HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING YET...

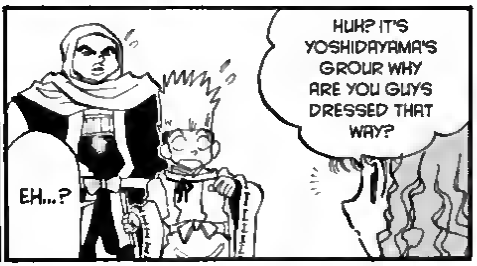

WE WILL DRAW THEIR JOYFUL CHEERS DIRECTLY TO US!!
SHINK


OH! HERE THEY COME!
GLARE
GLARE

NO SOUND IS ACTUALLY COMING OUT
PHYUUU
FUHOOO
FUUUU
THAT'S SOME NERVE!! HE LOOKS NOTHING LIKE THE GUY!!
CHA
HE'S ENORMOUS!!
IS HE TRYING TO PLAY USHIWAKAMARU?
IS THIS GUY BENKEI?!
SHAKKA
<TONIGHT, I WILL TAKE MY THOU-SANDTH HEAD!!>
HE'S SO TINY!!
AREN'T THEIR PARTS REVERSED?!
<IF YOU WISH TO PASS THIS SPOT, YOU WILL HAVE TO LEAVE YOUR KATANA BEHIND!!>
CHUU
ちまっ

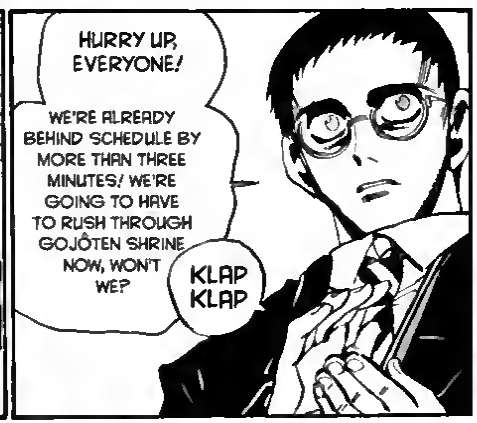
G-RRRR... !!
わいわい YAKY YAKY
THEY'RE SO COOL!!

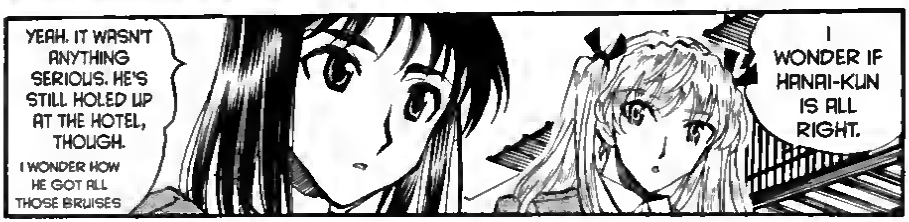
こそこそ SNEAK SNEAK
N-NO REASON. W-WE WERE JUST...


HUH? IT'S YOSHIDAYAMA'S GROUP WHY ARE YOU GUYS DRESSED THAT WAY?
EH...?

I THINK WE'LL HAVE TO CALL IT A DAY!
DAMMIT !!

THIS TIME WE HAVE A GUY IN GLASSES THAT WE CAN REALLY COUNT ON!!
しょーしょー YES, SIR!!


HURRY UP, EVERYONE!
WE'RE ALREADY BEHIND SCHEDULE BY MORE THAN THREE MINUTES! WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO RUSH THROUGH GOJŌTEN SHRINE NOW, WON'T WE?
KLAP KLAP


YEAH. IT WASN'T ANYTHING SERIOUS. HE'S STILL HOLED UP AT THE HOTEL, THOUGH.
I WONDER HOW HE GOT ALL THOSE BRUISES
I WONDER IF HANAI-KUN IS ALL RIGHT.

EH?
N-NOT AT ALL!
SAWACHIKA, IS SOMETHING WRONG?
BUT WHY WAS HE IN A PLACE LIKE THAT?
THAT MEANS HE WROTE HIS NAME NEXT TO SOMEONE'S.
THAT PLACE IS DEDICATED TO LOVE FORTUNES.
EH?
YOU CAN DO AS YOU WISH, OF COURSE.
SORRY, MIKOTO, AKIRA! GO ON WITHOUT ME!!
HUH...
WHY AM I...
WHY DOES HE DO THAT?! IT GETS ME ALL CURIOUS!!
THAT IDIOT IS SO HARD TO FIGURE OUT!! WHY CAN'T HE BE A LITTLE MORE CHIVALROUS TOWARD WOMEN?!

EH?!
THIS IS JUST TO CONFIRM THINGS! I-IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER TO ME WHOSE NAME HE WROTE!
WAIT A MINUTE...
BEARD ?!
MAX! DID YOU...
JUST YOU WAIT! HE'S THE ONE WHO THREW THE FIRST PUNCH.
YOU'VE GOT SOME KNIGHT PROTECTOR. HE CAN'T EVEN PROTECT HIS MOST PRECIOUS ITEM.
.....!!
HEY! WHO DID THIS?!
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?!

YOU'VE CHANGED...
...HALF-JAPANESE.
HA! THESE SLIPS OF PAPER! THEY'RE ALL ANYBODY WANTS!!
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN? QUIT TRYING TO CONFUSE ME...
GIVE ME BACK MY CHARM!!
SEE YOU.
STOP RIGHT THERE!!

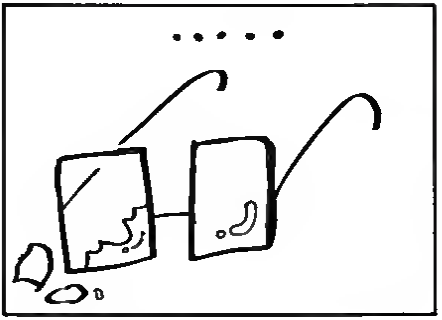
Two Charms. Two Loves...

175 · · · · · · · · · Fin

Short Rumble The Road To

Rejections from the "Original Fifth Panel Manga"! Next are these two!

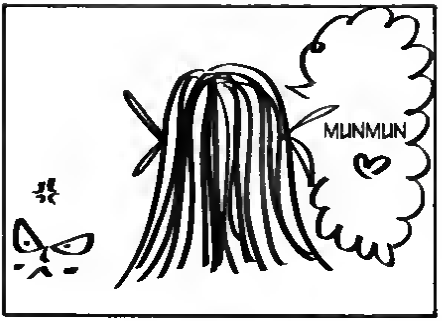
Written and Illustrated by Takahashi Hiroki



KOBAYASHI JIN'S COMMENTS

To tell the entire story in one image is something I think could only be imagined by an actor. This is really something to see!

Written and Illustrated by Noto Mamiko



KOBAYASHI JIN'S COMMENTS

My very first impression when I saw this picture was that it was one of the Gegege creatures. She did a good job of depicting both sides of Tenma's hair, and I get an anxious feeling that this won't end well. I'm sorry if I misunderstood the image.

"The Road to Short Rumble" continues on page 121...

HA HA HA HA!!
IT LOOKS LIKE MY FIRST PUNCH HAD A PRETTY DEVASTATING EFFECT.
SHK
KH... YOU CREEP!!

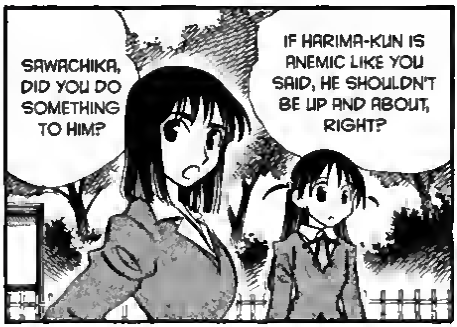
NOW, DIE!!
BLURT

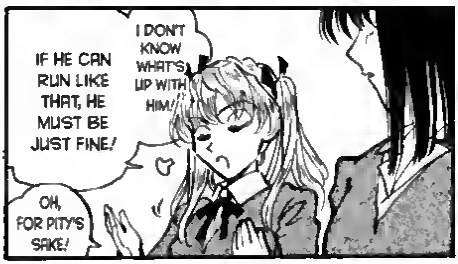
SWARM

HYUU
WHOOSH
AH!!
UHN...
WHA-?
P-PRINCESS ?!
AH! YOU'RE AWAKE, BEARD?
N-NO, HE...
SAY... IT'S ABOUT MAX...
HE COULDN'T HAVE BEATEN ME...!! THAT PUNK?!
He...
HE COULDN'T HAVE...

YOU MEAN THAT CREEP MADE A MESS OUT OF ME?!
I WETTED DOWN THIS HANDKERCHIEF FOR YOU!
EH...?
AH...!
TMP TMP
HE'S COME TO?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
DOES IT HURT ANYWHERE, HARIMA-KUN?!
I-I'M OKAY! IT'S NOTHING!
DMP
H—
HARIMA-KUN?!

TENMA SAW ME KNOCKED OUT AND BRUISED!!


SAWACHIKA, DID YOU DO SOMETHING TO HIM?
IF HARIMA-KUN IS ANEMIC LIKE YOU SAID, HE SHOULDN'T BE UP AND ABOUT, RIGHT?


IF HE CAN RUN LIKE THAT, HE MUST BE JUST FINE!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S UP WITH HIM!
OH, FOR PITY'S SAKE!

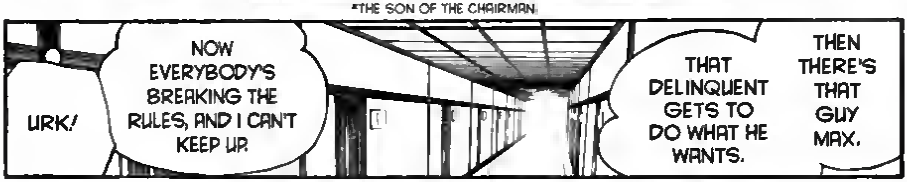
BEARD... I GUESS IT WAS QUITE A SHOCK. YOU HAVE A MAN'S PRIDE, AFTER ALL...
YOU TWO REALLY HATE EACH OTHER, DON'T YOU?

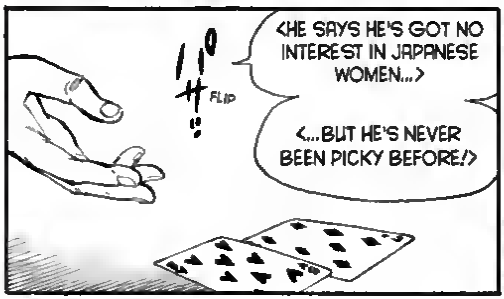
I'VE BEEN BEATEN, RIGHT IN FRONT OF TENMA-CHAN!!

COULD IT BE BECAUSE...
BUT... WHY DID YOU PICK THAT FIGHT WITH MAX...?
BUT THAT'D BE IMPOSSIBLE, RIGHT...?
YOU WANTED TO GET MY CHARM BACK FROM HIM...?
COULD IT BE BECAUSE OF ME...?
...THE NIGHT LIFE!! YEAH!!
おお
OH OOOH
YES!! WHEN YOU THINK OF A SCHOOL TRIP, YOU CAN ONLY THINK OF...
OF COURSE!! THE GUYS AREN'T THE ONLY ONES WHO WANT TO PLAY, RIGHT?
ぞろぞろ
SNEAK
SNEAK
NICE, SUGA! AND YOU'VE ALREADY ARRANGED IT WITH THE GIRLS?
THE ALL-NIGHT PARTY BEGINS NOW—
YO!! ARE YOU GUYS ALL READY?!

HAHAHA
HUH...?
HUH...?
KYAA!! I WANT TO GO WITH YOU!!
HA HA HA! SO WE'RE ALL GOING TOGETHER TO GION?
GONNNNG
I VAGUELY REMEMBER PROMISING TO MEET SOMEBODY, BUT... OH, WHO CARES?!
CROWD
CROWD
THEY'RE THE REAL THING! UNLIKE ANY BOYS WE KNOW!!
WHAT TIME DO YOU THINK IT IS?!
HEY, YOU LITTLE PUNKS!!
STOMP STOMP
GET UP TO YOUR ROOMS AND INTO BED!!
WHY ARE THE DOMESTIC PRODUCTS LEFT ON THE SHELF?!
UWAAA-AAH!! THIS ISN'T WHAT WE WERE PROMISED !!
YOU'RE KID-DING...
YOU'RE...
ALL GONE

*THE SON OF THE CHAIRMAN.





IF ALL I DO IS CRUSH SOME OF THAT STUPID JAP PRIDE...
...THEN I'LL BE PERFECTLY SATISFIED.
DAMMIT...
!!
THAT'S
...
!!

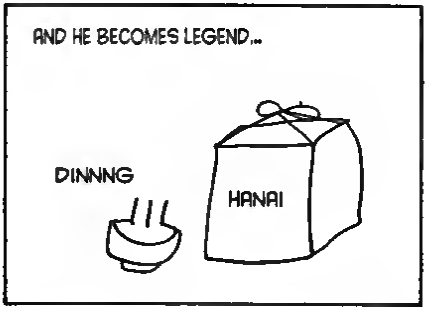
KARASUMA, YOU CREEP! I TAKE MY EYES OFF OF YOU FOR A SECOND, AND THERE YOU ARE WITH TENMA-CHAN...
disc
THERE'RE BETTER MEN FOR HER OUT THERE THAN A PUNK WHO CAN'T EVEN SAY WHAT HE TRULY FEELS...
NO... IF I CAN'T EVEN PROTECT ONE LITTLE CHARM, THEN IT'S ONLY NATURAL...
IT'S MY FAULT. I WAS SO ENRAPTURED BY THE TEMPLE THAT WE GOT SEPARATED...
HM... I WONDER WHERE SAGANO AND THE GANG WENT TO?
BUT EVEN THOUGH I'M A LOST CHILD IN A STRANGE COUNTRY, AS LONG AS I HAVE SOMEONE AS CUTE AS YOU WITH ME...
EH...? JOHN-SAN?

176 · · · · · · · · · Fin

Short Rumble The Road To

Rejections from the "Original Fifth Panel Manga"! We're not done yet! ♪

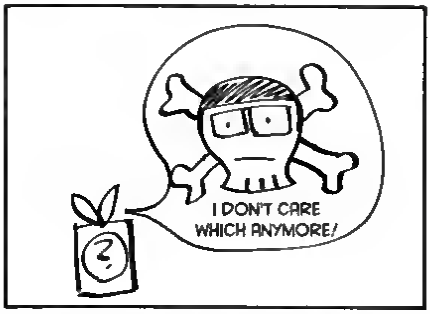
Written and Illustrated by Nabatame Hitomi



KOBAYASHI JIN'S COMMENTS

The only one I feel has the right to do this kind of panel is the woman who plays Mikoto. But the thing I really want to know is, with him like this, what kind of legend is born from it?

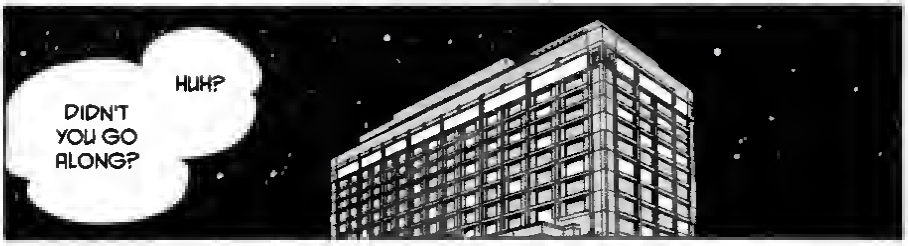
Written and Illustrated by Horie Yui

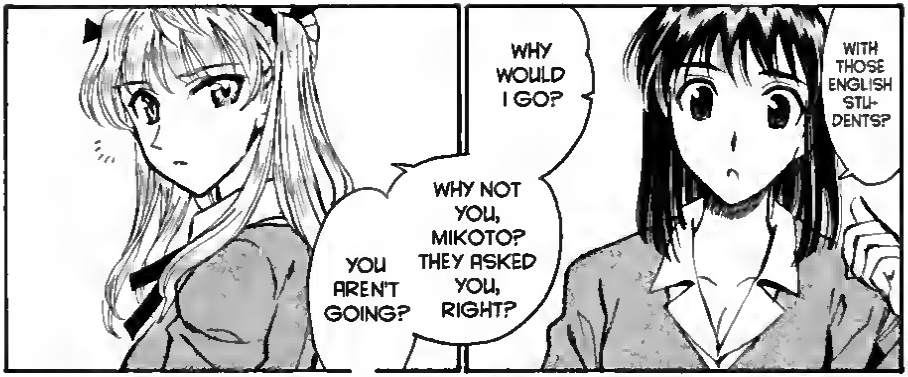


KOBAYASHI JIN'S COMMENTS

At first, I thought that she just gave up, and drew this to fill the space. But when you take a close look at it, you can get several meanings out of the image. This uses some high-level techniques. Of course that was her goal...right?

◀ "The Road to Short Rumble" continues on page 131...





#177 OUT ON A LIMB

HELLO, YOUNG ONE.
CHIRINNG
チリーン
CHIRINNG
チリーン
YOU WISH TO BECOME A MONK?
.....
I-IS THAT RIGHT...?
NOTHING IS THE SAME BETWEEN ENGLAND AND HERE!
YOU CAN'T KNOW HOW ANXIOUS I WAS!
BUT WITH YOU, I FEEL I CAN SAY WHATEVER IS IN MY HEART!
WELL? WILL YOU SPEND SOME TIME WITH ME?

YO, ICHI-SAN!
IMA-DORI-SAN!
SURE!! IF YOU'LL HAVE ME!!
WHO ARE YOU? YOU COULDN'T BE AN ACQUAINTANCE OF KAREN'S, COULD YOU?
U-UM... TH-THIS ISN'T WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE...
SO THIS IS A CHALLENGE !!
VVSSH
LISTEN, YOU!!
YOU'VE HAD A FREE RIDE SO FAR...
SIC HIM!!
NO. 1, SUGA! NO. 2, YOSHI-DAYAMA!!
WHOOSH
YOU FOOL !
DO YOU THINK I'VE COME UNPRE-PARED?
I-IMADORI-SAN!!
EH? I'M NOT SURE THIS IS WISE.
I HAVE MY DOUBTS THAT YOU, ALONE, COULD HOPE TO PREVAIL.

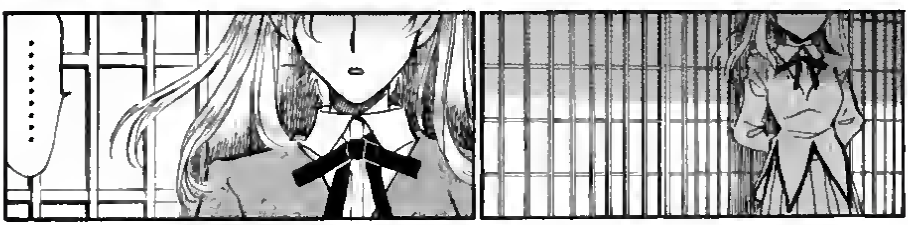
THAT HURT!
WHAT WAS THAT FOR, SUGA...?
GWAAH!!
KAWHAMM
IMADORI-SAN!! THEY LOOK NOTHING LIKE THEM!!
ESPECIALLY THE GUY ON THE RIGHT!!
...THAT YOU'RE NOT ACTUALLY SUGA AND YOSHI-DAYAMA?!
THAT HURT! WHEN DID THEY CHANGE?
Y-YOU GUYS!! YOU DON'T MEAN...?
!!
SHKK
TH-THAT ISN'T FAIR!!
FUYUKI? WHO IS THAT?
TH-THIS ISN'T GOOD! FUYUKI, I NEED A NEW PLAN!!
FAIR? YOU WERE THE ONE WHO WANTED TO ATTACK FIRST.
AND NOW WE MUST PUNISH YOU TO MAKE SURE YOU NEVER TRY SUCH A FOOLISH TRICK AGAIN.
SHF

NOW, IT LOOKS LIKE THE PROBLEM'S BEEN TAKEN CARE OF.
SHALL WE HEAD OFF TO GION, KAREN?
I-I'M GOING TO...
...STAY HERE WITH IMADORI-SAN...
<WHAT?>
B-BUT... I-IMADORI-SAN, YOU CAME!
A-AND I WAS SO HAPPY TO SEE YOU!!
NOT ONLY THAT, BUT I GOT MY REAR END HANDED BACK TO ME.
NOT MY BEST DAY.
HUH? I'M HERE BECAUSE I DIDN'T LIKE HIS ATTITUDE.
TH-THANK YOU.

WHAT-EVER!! MAN, I HURT!!
ICHI-SAN, LET ME RIDE PIGGYBACK
O-OKAY!
I LOST A BATTLE I FOUGHT TO PROTECT THE GIRL THAT I LOVE.
I DON'T HAVE ANY RIGHT TO EXIST ANY-MORE!
YES...
LET'S MAKE THIS QUICK.
ARE YOU READY?
I WILL BECOME A MONK, AND PRAY ETERNALLY FOR YOUR HAPPINESS...
AND GOODBYE FOREVER, MY LOVE...
FORGIVE ME, TENMA-CHAN!
TH-THAT VOICE...!
!!
STOP RIGHT THERE !!

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING HERE?!
WHAT ELSE?
I'VE COME TO LAUGH AT YOU!
WHA-?!
HA!
WHO'D HAVE THOUGHT THAT YOU'D GIVE UP SO EASILY?
I GUESS THE UNEXPECTED DOES HAPPEN, HM?
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
IF YOU DO THIS...
...THEN THAT GIRL YOU LOVE WILL BE VERY DISAPPOINTED IN YOU.
EH...?
YOU WROTE IT, DIDN'T YOU?
YOUR NAME AND HERS...
ON THAT CHARM...

!!
THEN IT'S TRUE?
S-SO YOU KNEW?!
YES.
THAT GIRL... DO YOU REALLY... ...LOVE HER?



The Hidden Feelings Are Now Revealed...

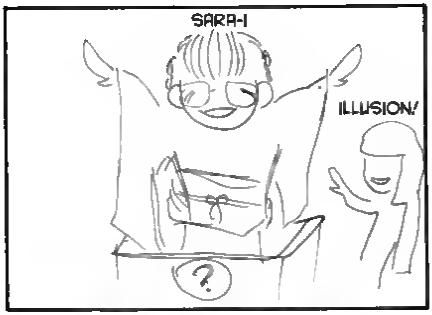
177.....Fin

Short Rumble

The Road To

Rejections from the "Original Fifth Panel Manga"! The final two!

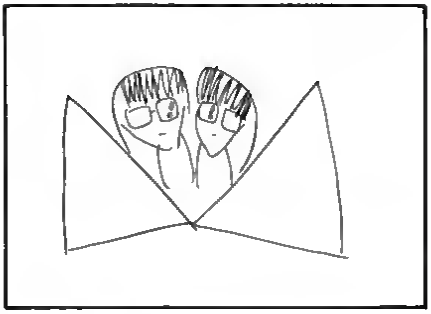
Written and Illustrated by Fukui Yukari



KOBAYASHI JIN'S COMMENTS

In Sarah's eyes, there is nothing that could make her happier! Also, he's in *yukata*! And it's really him!! And that name, Sara-i! I'm kind of wondering if you'll let me use this in my manga...?

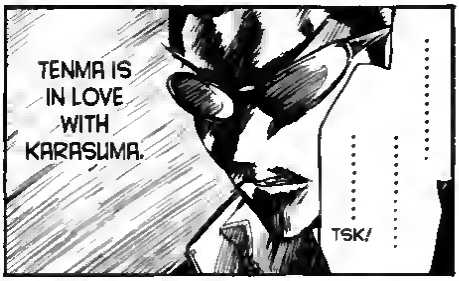
Written and Illustrated by Mako

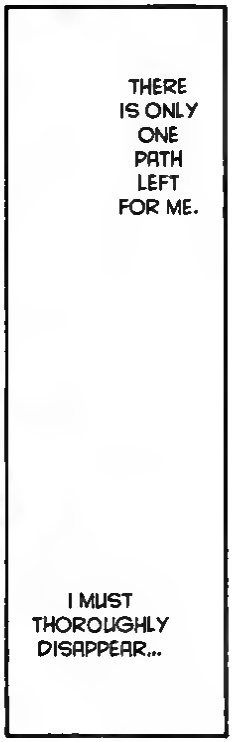


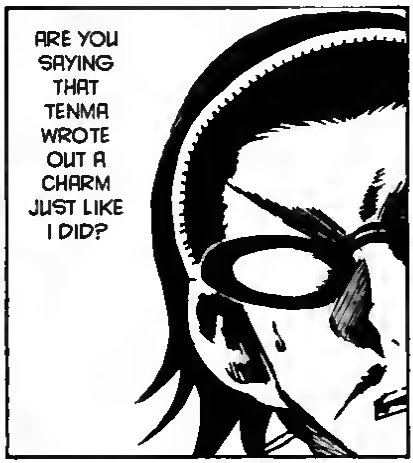
KOBAYASHI JIN'S COMMENTS

She illustrated the two faces of humankind. A very insightful image. The diagonal cut isn't done simply—it's had some thought put into it. Um... Why were there twins in there again? Please tell me!

"The Road to Short Rumble" continues on page 141...

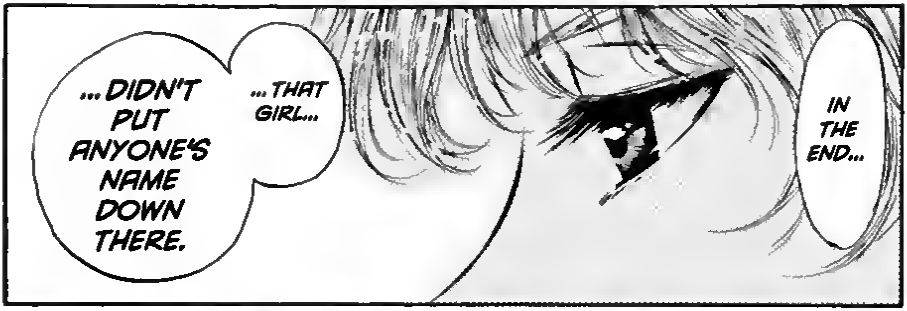






#178 THE REPLACEMENTS

KARA-
SUMA.
I'M PRETTY SURE THE NAME SHE WROTE IS...
YEAH...
TRYING TO DRUM INTO ME WHAT I ALREADY KNOW?
WHAT DOES SHE THINK SHE'S DOING...?
EH...?
WHAT... DID YOU SAY?
HUH?
FOR PITY'S SAKE...
YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING, DO YOU?!
WHY WOULD SHE WRITE KARASUMA-KUN'S NAME?! COME ON, BE SERIOUS!!
OF COURSE NOT!!
!!
ARE YOU SAYING SHE DIDN'T WRITE THAT NAME?!
WHA—?!

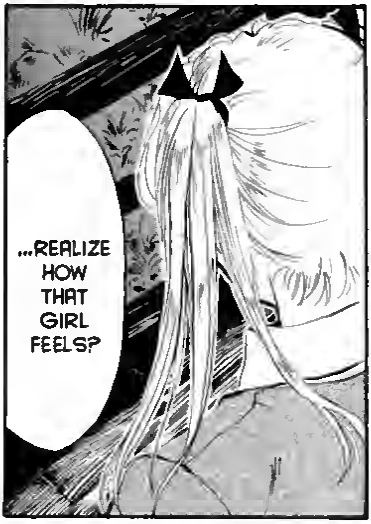

IN THE END...
...THAT GIRL...
...DIDN'T PUT ANYONE'S NAME DOWN THERE.

S—
SO THAT MEANS...
...THAT IT'S POSSIBLE...
...FOR MY NAME TO BE WRITTEN IN THERE LATER!

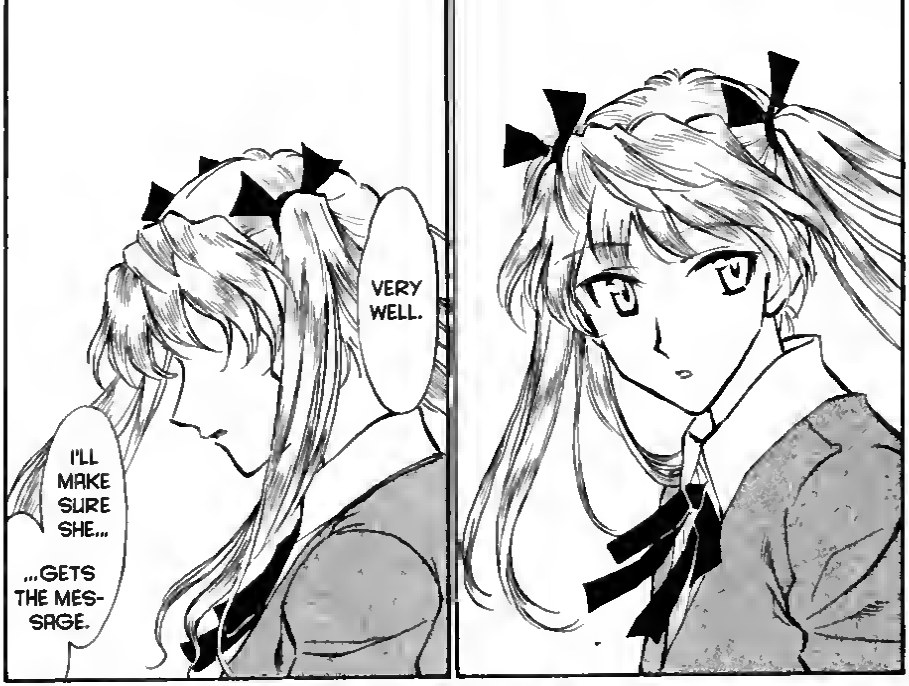
SHE HASN'T REALLY FIGURED OUT EXACTLY WHAT SHE FEELS.
SO IT WAS LEFT AS BLANK PAPER.

DO YOU...

I...!!
I DIDN'T SAY THAT!
HOW CAN YOU ASK A GIRL... ...TO ADMIT SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
.....


...REALIZE HOW THAT GIRL FEELS?

えっ—
EH?
PRIN-CESS!
I WANT YOU TO PASS THIS MESSAGE ON TO HER!
THEN...
THEN...
WHEN I'VE TAKEN CARE OF THESE IRRITANTS...
THEN I'D LIKE THE TWO OF US...
...TO GO AND WRITE CHARMS AT THE SHRINE TOGETHER.
OF COURSE I DO!!
I HAVE AT LEAST A DIM AWARENESS OF HER FEELINGS.

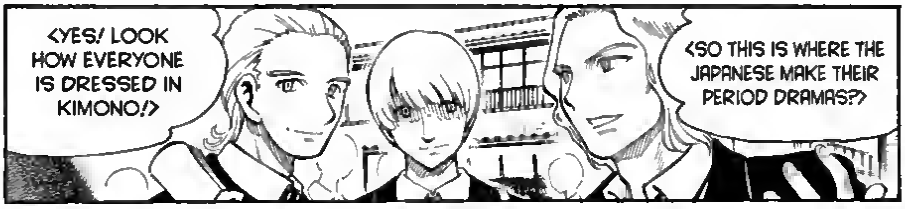

VERY WELL.
I'LL MAKE SURE SHE...
...GETS THE MESSAGE.

I ENVY YOUR YOUTH.
HA HA HA! GIVE IT YOUR BEST.
BUT THERE IS JUST ONE PROBLEM...
...I WON'T BE NEEDING THAT HAIRCUT AFTER ALL.
SORRY TO BE SUCH A BOTHER.
AND SO, MONK-SAN...

UWAAAA-AAAHH!!
CALM DOWN!!
I HAVE A PLAN!!
WHAT DID YOU DO TO ME, YOU SELF-RIGHTEOUS, LITTLE...
FLUTTER
はらっ
HUH?!

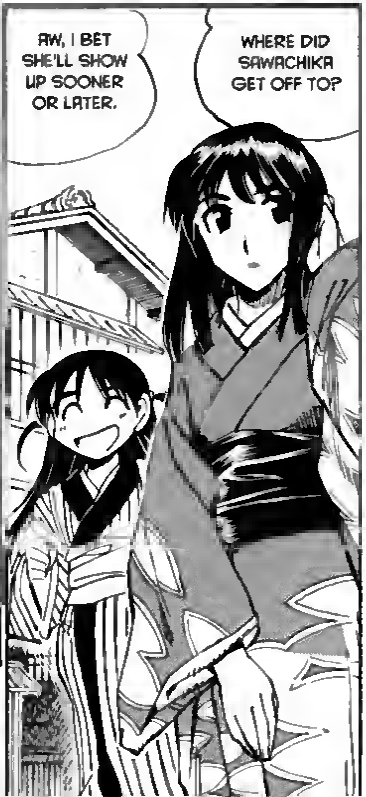
THE NEXT DAY AT TOEI MOVIE LAND...
NO, YOU IDIOT! THAT'S EDO WONDERLAND NIKKO! THIS IS UZUMASA!!
HUH? ISN'T NYAN-MAGE SUPPOSED TO BE HERE?

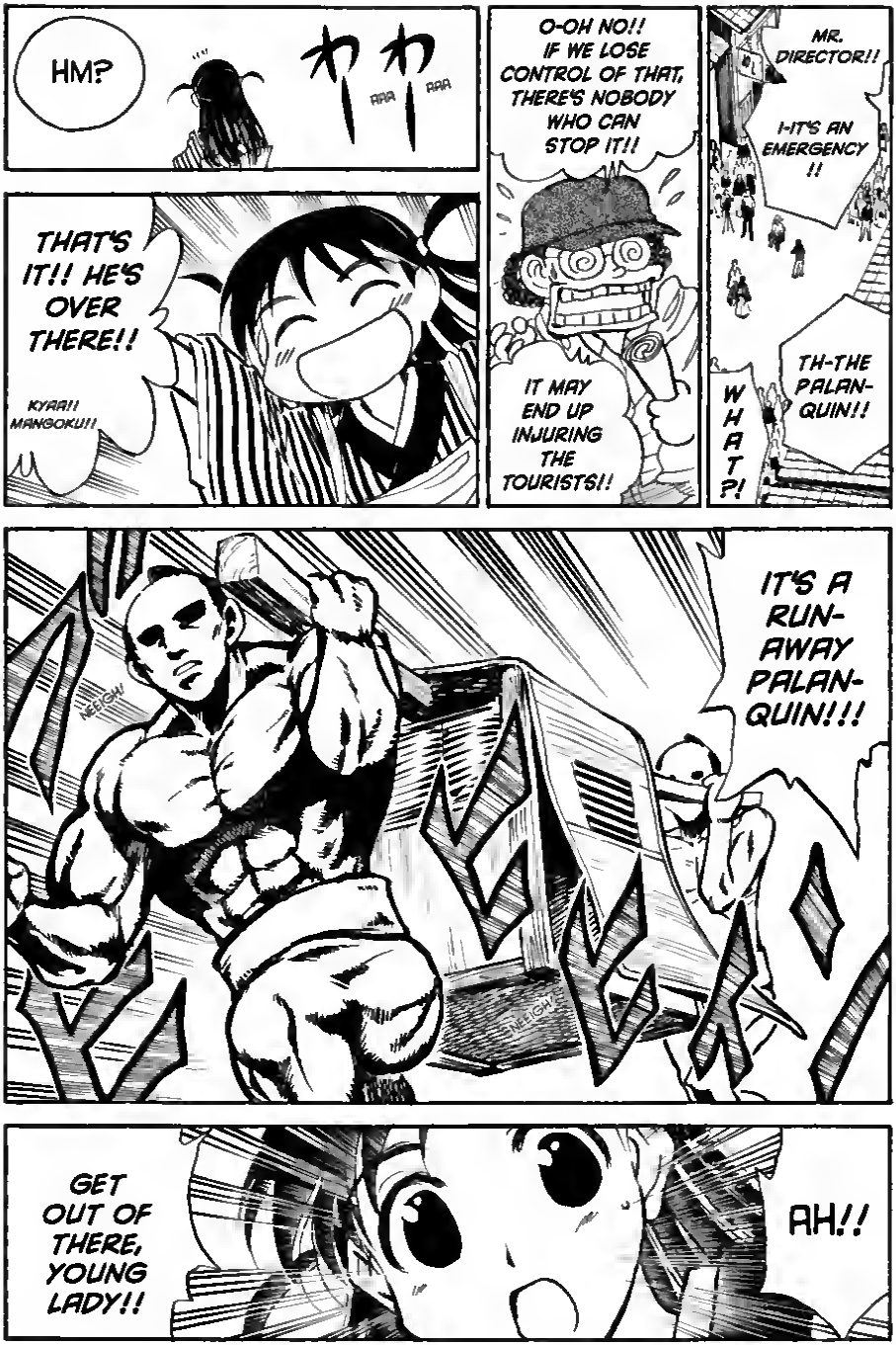
LOOK AT THEM! IT'S LIKE THEY'VE ALL TURNED INTO FOREIGNERS!
THAT'S 2-C OVER THERE, RIGHT?


<YES! LOOK HOW EVERYONE IS DRESSED IN KIMONO!>
<SO THIS IS WHERE THE JAPANESE MAKE THEIR PERIOD DRAMAS?>

UZUMASA IS WHERE THEY FILM *THREE TO GET KILLED!!* I MAY EVEN MEET MANGOKU, AND HAVE HIM TREAT ME TO TEA!!

AH! I'M GOOD, THANKS!
SAY, TENMA-CHAN! YOU WANT TO COME TASTE SOME ANMITSU?

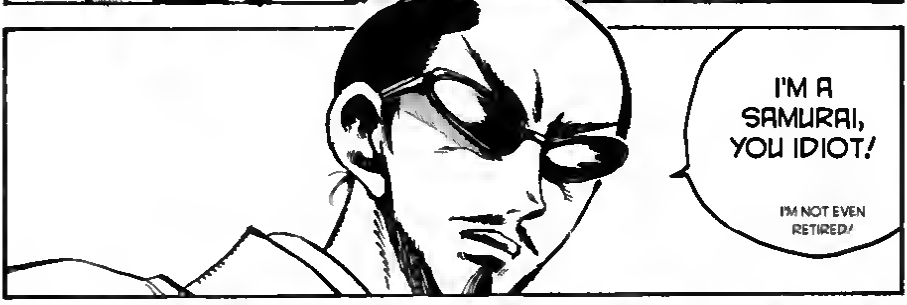

AW, I BET SHE'LL SHOW UP SOONER OR LATER.
WHERE DID SAWACHIKA GET OFF TO?



And One Thing Not Seen on School Trips.

SHK
WHO CAN THAT BRAVE MAN BE?!
HE THREW HIMSELF IN THE PATH OF TH-THAT PALANQUIN AND STOPPED IT!!
NEENGGH!!
.....
I-IT'S YOU...
TENMA !!

DOOOM
COULD IT BE THE SHOGUN'S BELOVED UNCLE?!


I'M A SAMURAI, YOU IDIOT!
I'M NOT EVEN RETIRED!

AFTER ALL HE'S PUT HIMSELF THROUGH...
LOOKS LIKE HE NEEDS MORE PUNISHMENT TO LEARN!
WHERE DID YOU GET OFF TO?!
WE WERE WORRIED ABOUT YOU!
H-HARIMA!

178 . . . . . Fin

Short Rumble

Before we present the winners of the Road to Short Rumble Draw Your Own Manga Contest, we wanted to present the Q&A with the captains of our teams of contestants. So, although it's late in the game, we present, playing Takano, Shimizu Kaori, and playing Hanai, Kawada Shinji!!

Playing Takano: Shimizu Kaori-san's Q&A

• What do you like about the character you play?
Tha way sha manipulates peopla.
• What is a difference between yourself and your character?
She's so cool.
•If you don't watch this part of *School Rumble Second Semester*... (bone-chilling laugh)
Every now and again Akira is allowed to have an ad lib, so check out parts ot the *School Rumble* anime that aren't in the original manga!

Playing Hanai: Kawada Shinji-san's Q&A

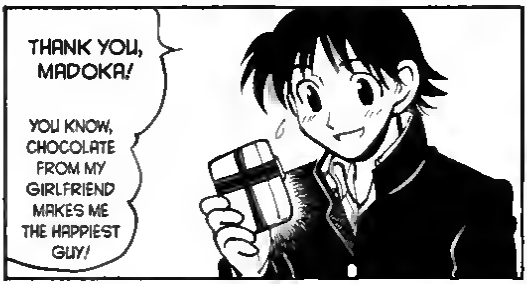
•What do you like about the character you play?
The way he's straightforward and compassionate.
• What is a difference between yourself and your character?
I'm not as methodical and punctilious as he is.
•You must watch this part of *School Rumble Second Semester*!!
I don't know if we could ever be friends, but actually I really like Hanai. There isn't any part of playing him that is especially hard on me. But I am always very physical when doing his lines, so by the end, I'm covered with sweat.

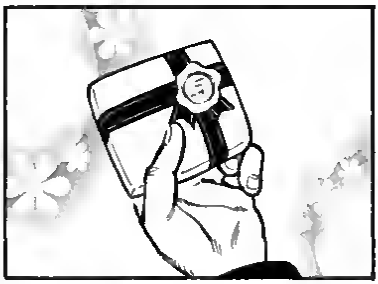
"The Road to Short Rumble" continues on page 159...

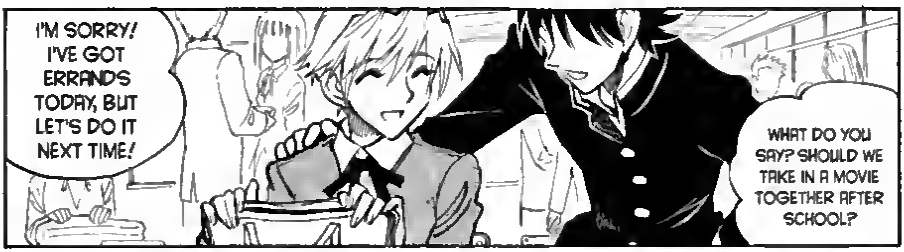
My Funny Valentine

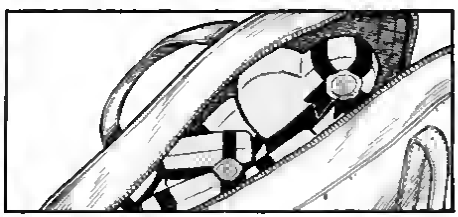
TODAY, THE SWIMSUIT SUMO WRESTLING GROUP WILL DISCUSS WAYS TO ABOLISH VALENTINE'S DAY!!
EXACTLY, DASU!
DAMMIT! WHO EVER THOUGHT UP VALENTINE'S DAY?!
I MEAN, THIS COUNTRY...
IT'S JUST AN ADVERTISING GIMMICK MADE BY THE CHOCOLATE COMPANIES!
BUT I WAS AFRAID THAT IF I TOLD YOU ABOUT IT, YOU'D STOP TALKING TO ME!
...FOUND ONE IN MY FRONT-HALL SHOEBOX...
I'M SORRY FOR THOSE TWO GUYS, THOUGH...
ACTUALLY, I...
B-BMP B-BMP
YOU'RE SO RIGHT! THE WORLD WOULD BE BETTER WITHOUT ALL THAT STUPID, UNNECESSARY CHOCOLATE!!
I WONDER WHEN THEY'LL NOTICE?
I'LL JUST LEAVE MY CHOCOLATE SOMEWHERE THEY MIGHT JUST HAPPEN TO SEE IT...
YOUR STUPID CHOCOLATE.
THEN YOU SHOULD JUST THROW IT OUT!!
UNNECESSARY?
SUGA RYUHEI

Short Rumble · · · · · · · · Fin

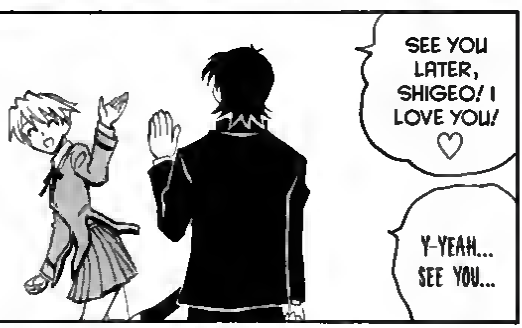






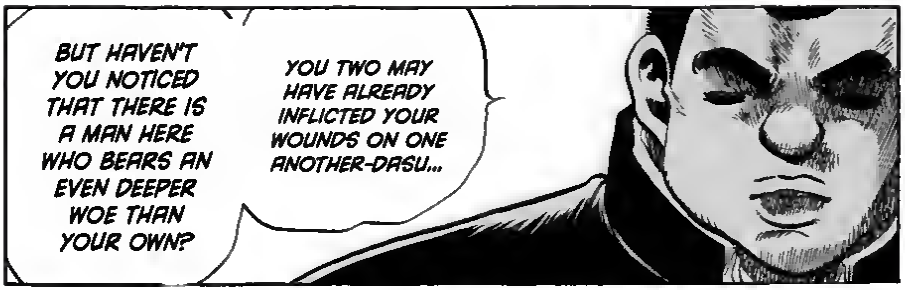


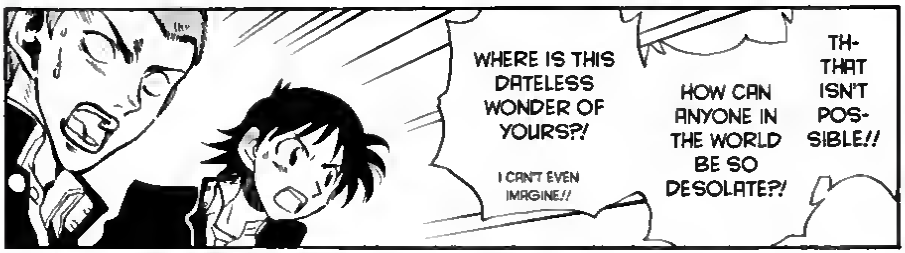
WHAT SHIGEO SAW WAS THAT MADOKA HAD QUITE A NUMBER OF CHOCOLATES IN HER BAG, EXACTLY THE SAME TYPE AS THE ONE HE RECEIVED. AND THERE WAS ONE CHOCOLATE GIFT THAT WAS EVEN BIGGER THAN HIS.

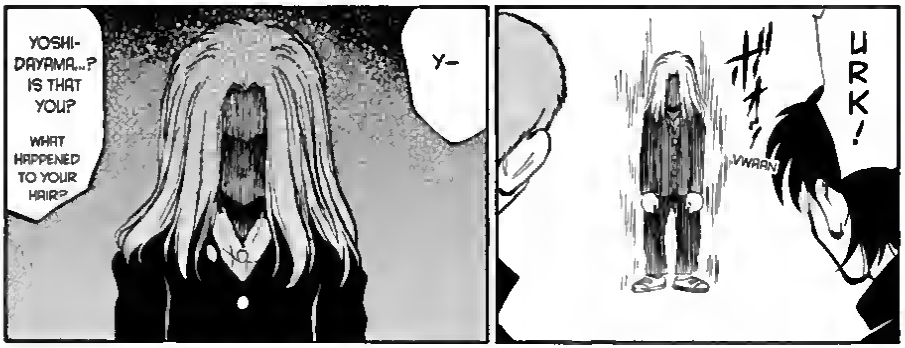


TSK...
MUMBLE MUMBLE MUMBLE
BONK
OW!!
WHO DID THAT?!
WHO HIT ME WITH A BOX OF CHOCOLATES?!
I DID!
SHK
WHA—? SUGA?!
I THREW IT OUT THE CLASS WINDOW IN A FIT OF RAGE...
...BUT I CAN'T SIMPLY LET IT END THAT WAY.
THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE THROWING!! PEOPLE CAN GET HURT!!
DON'T PUSH ME! I'M ON EDGE RIGHT NOW!!
YOUNG WHELP! YOU RECEIVED CHOCOLATE OF YOUR OWN, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU'VE HAD A SMILE ALL OVER YOUR FACE FOR THE ENTIRE DAY, HAVEN'T YOU, YOU SCOUNDREL!!
PUT A CORK IN IT! I MAY HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND...
...BUT THAT BRINGS PROBLEMS OF ITS OWN!! PROBLEMS YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND!!
SHING

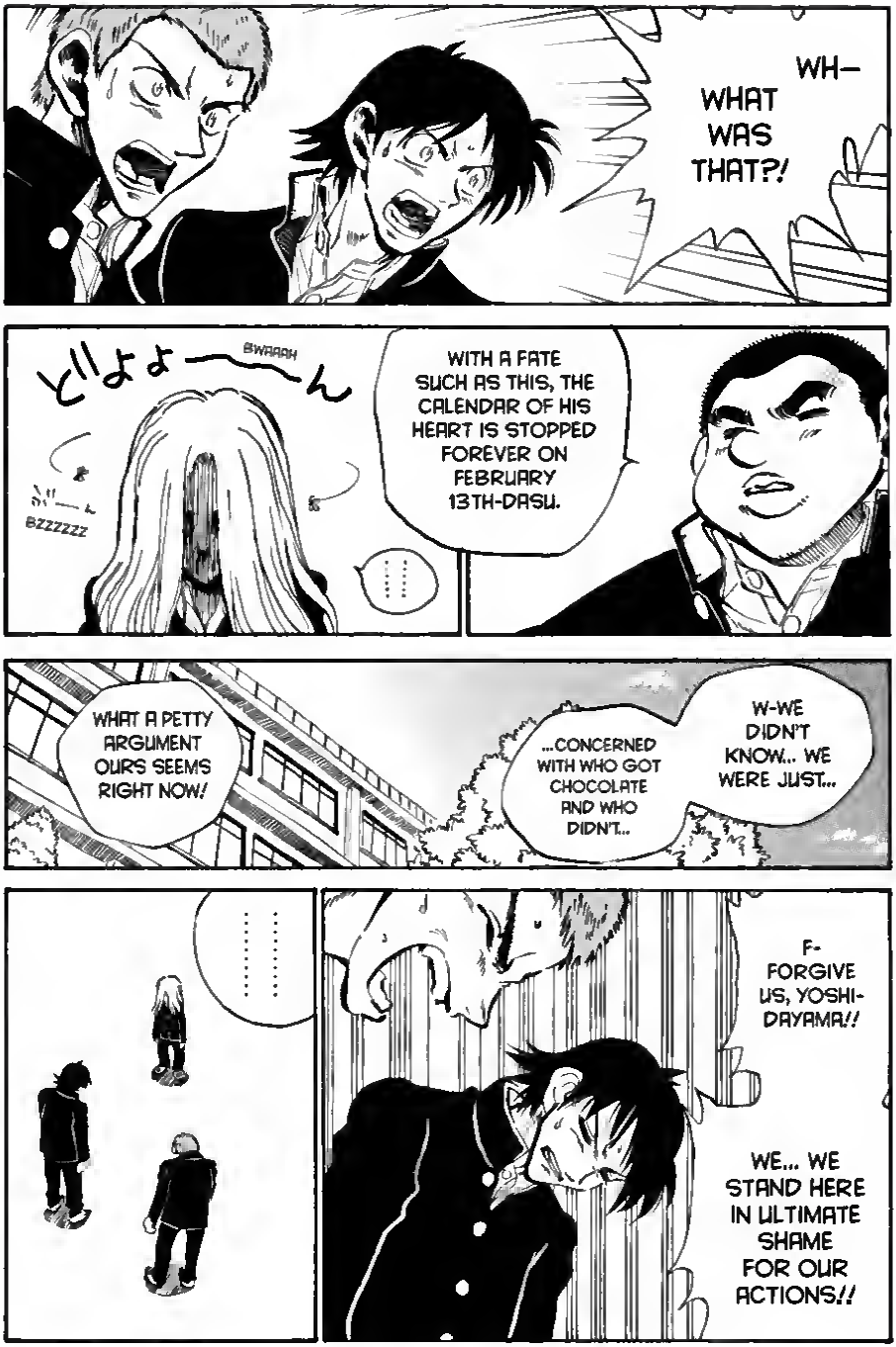
YOU ARE THE ENEMY OF EACH ONE OF FIVE MILLION MEN IN THIS COUNTRY WITH NO GIRLFRIEND!!
YOU HAVE THE IMPUDENCE TO SAY THAT?!!
WHAT?! ARE YOU SAYING THIS IS YOURS?!
I KNOW IT CAN'T BE!!
GRRRNNN
GIMME THAT CHOCO-LATE RIGHT NOW!!
I-IT'S YOU...!!
...AND I KNOW AS WELL-DASU!!
THE EARTH KNOWS, THE HEAVENS KNOW...
GHKK
THAT WILL BE ENOUGH !!


YOU TWO MAY HAVE ALREADY INFLICTED YOUR WOUNDS ON ONE ANOTHER-DASU...
BUT HAVEN'T YOU NOTICED THAT THERE IS A MAN HERE WHO BEARS AN EVEN DEEPER WOE THAN YOUR OWN?


TH-THAT ISN'T POS-SIBLE!!
HOW CAN ANYONE IN THE WORLD BE SO DESOLATE?!
WHERE IS THIS DATELESS WONDER OF YOURS?!
I CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE!!


URK!
GASU!
VWARN
Y-
YOSHI-DAYAMA...? IS THAT YOU?
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR HAIR?

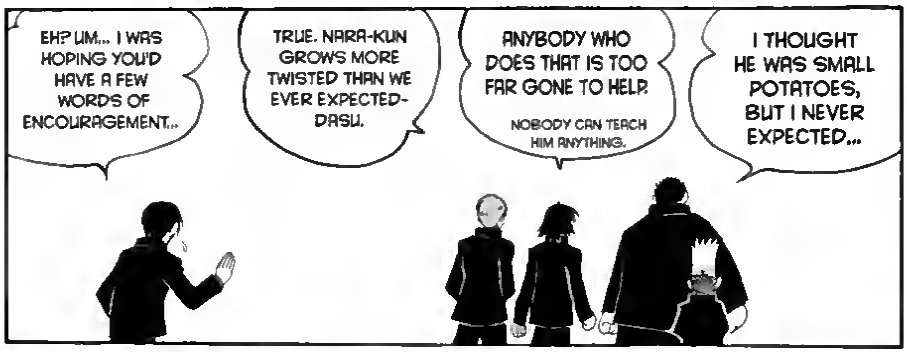
ALL THE WORLD IS BATHED IN ROMANCE, BUT NOT ONE WHIS-PER OF "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" DOES HE RECEIVE.
AND YET, EVERY YEAR HE RECEIVES NO CHOCOLATE.
DOES THAT SURPRISE YOU? HIS VERY BIRTHDAY IS VALENTINE'S DAY.


WH—
WHAT WAS THAT?!
どよよーーーん
BWAAAH
BZZZZZZ
WITH A FATE SUCH AS THIS, THE CALENDAR OF HIS HEART IS STOPPED FOREVER ON FEBRUARY 13TH-DASU.
WHAT A PETTY ARGUMENT OURS SEEMS RIGHT NOW!
...CONCERNED WITH WHO GOT CHOCOLATE AND WHO DIDN'T...
W-WE DIDN'T KNOW... WE WERE JUST...
F-FORGIVE US, YOSHIDAYAMA!!
WE... WE STAND HERE IN ULTIMATE SHAME FOR OUR ACTIONS!!

WE WERE THE BAD GUYS HERE!!
HEY.../
MOVE, EVEN JUST A LITTLE BIT, YOSHIDAYAMA!!
COME ON...
THAT'S IT!! WE'LL HAVE TO WAGER EVERYTHING ON THAT!!
I LIKE THIS IDEA!
WE WILL REMAKE FEBRUARY 14TH AS A BRAND NEW DAY!!
....!
MAYBE... IF WE DID SOMETHING TO CELEBRATE YOUR BIRTHDAY, IT WOULD HELP REVIVE YOU!
AND WE'LL ADMIRE THE MAN'S MAN WHO CAN FACE SUFFERING WITH CONFIDENCE!!
IT'S THE BIRTHDAY OF A NEW YOSHIDAYAMA!!
TOGETHER NOTHING CAN BEAT YOU!! YOU WILL STAND UP TO LIFE'S HARDSHIPS!!
WHOOSH
TRMBL
TRMBL
TRMBL

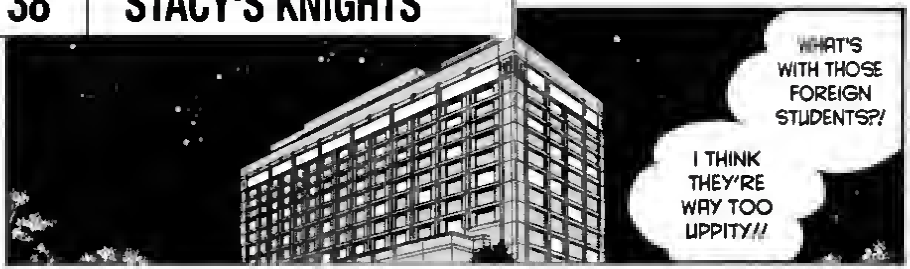
OHH!!
YOSHI-DAYAMA, YOU'VE BEEN REVIVED!
KWA HA HA HA HA!! SO YOU WANT TO CELEBRATE MY BIRTHDAY THAT MUCH, HUH?!
I WISH THAT COULD HAPPEN FOR ME...
LOOKING AT YOU TWO, I REALLY FEEL LIKE IT'S GOING TO HAPPEN!!
THAT'S YOU ALL OVER!! YOU'RE THE BEST AT BEING THE WORST!!
A-ALL RIGHT! THAT MEANS THAT THE CHOCOLATE THAT I GOT TODAY... IT MIGHT JUST WORK!!
BUT MAYBE IT'S TRUE! THE WORSE THINGS GET, THE NICER THESE GUYS ARE TO YOU.
I DIDN'T REALLY GET ANY CHOCO-LATE. IT WAS JUST FOR SHOW...
IT'S STUFF THAT I MADE MYSELF.
ACTUALLY, I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT IT THIS MORNING, BUT...
HEY, LISTEN UP, EVERY-BODY!
?

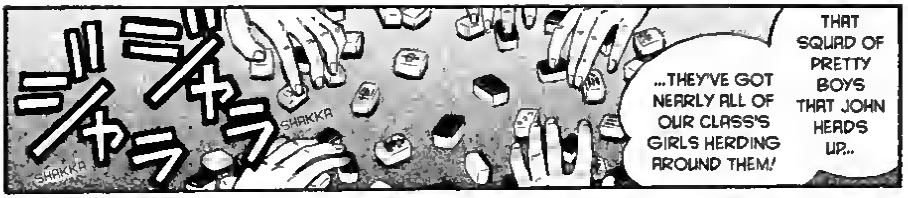
THAT IS SO WRONG !!
EH...?!

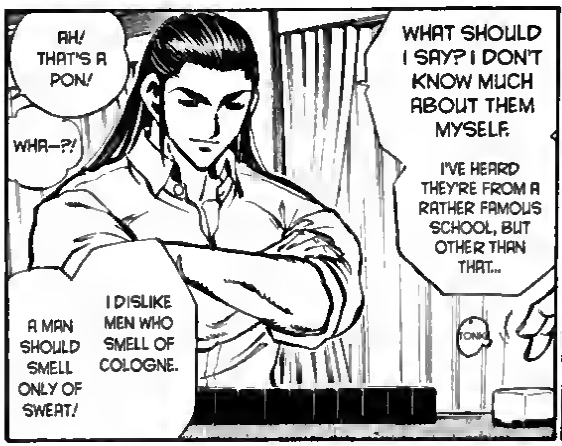

EH? UM... I WAS HOPING YOU'D HAVE A FEW WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT...
TRUE. NARA-KUN GROWS MORE TWISTED THAN WE EVER EXPECTED-DASU.
ANYBODY WHO DOES THAT IS TOO FAR GONE TO HELP. NOBODY CAN TEACH HIM ANYTHING.
I THOUGHT HE WAS SMALL POTATOES, BUT I NEVER EXPECTED...

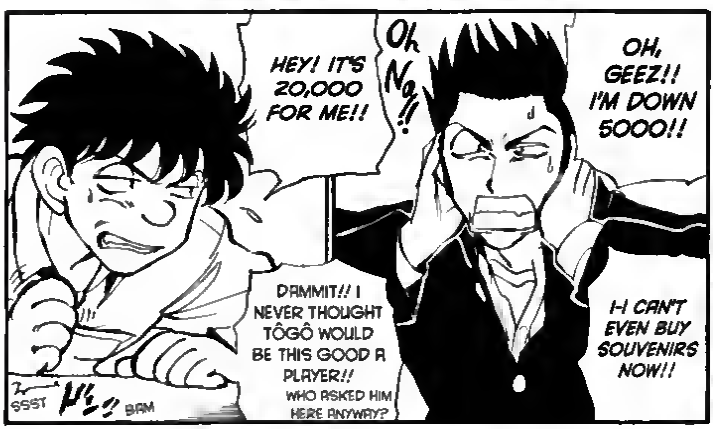
WHY DO THE JAPANESE GIVE CHOCOLATES LIKE THIS?
IT'S A LIE THAT ALL HUMANS ARE CREATED EQUAL, HUH?
カリッ
KACHAK
どさ
TUMBLE
どさっ
TUMBLE

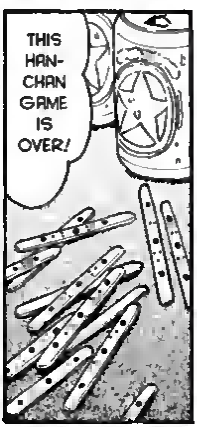
♭38 STACY'S KNIGHTS



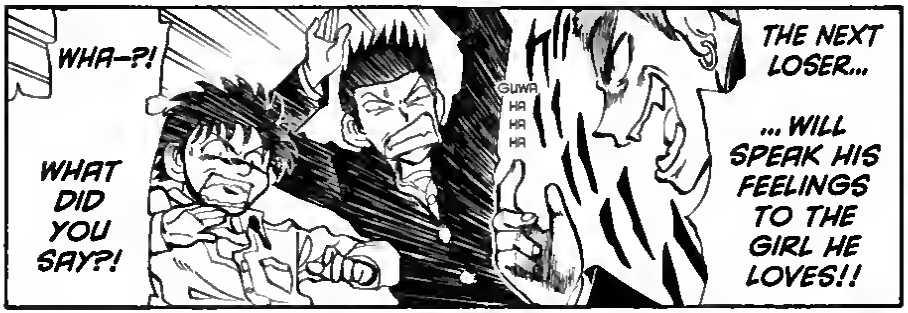



AH! THAT'S A PON!
WHA—?!
I DISLIKE MEN WHO SMELL OF COLOGNE.
A MAN SHOULD SMELL ONLY OF SWEAT!
WHAT SHOULD I SAY? I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT THEM MYSELF.
I'VE HEARD THEY'RE FROM A RATHER FAMOUS SCHOOL, BUT OTHER THAN THAT...
TONK


HEY! IT'S 20,000 FOR ME!!
Oh, No!!
OH, GEEZ!! I'M DOWN 5000!!
DAMMIT!! I NEVER THOUGHT TÔGÔ WOULD BE THIS GOOD A PLAYER!!
WHO ASKED HIM HERE ANYWAY?
I-I CAN'T EVEN BUY SOUVENIRS NOW!!
SSST
BAM

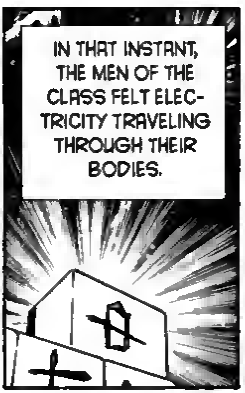


NO MONEY, YOU SAY?
HA HA HA! WELL, NOW THERE'S NO CHOICE!
WE ARE ON THE SCHOOL TRIP.


THE NEXT LOSER...
... WILL SPEAK HIS FEELINGS TO THE GIRL HE LOVES!!
GUWA HA HA HA
WHA-?!
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!

I-I DO NOT!!
HA HA HA! PURE-OF-HEART BOY!
...YOU WANT TO TELL HER, RIGHT?
YOU SAY THAT, BUT IN REALITY...
NYAAH
AND ANY-WAY...

A-ARE YOU IN OR OUT? BET!!


IN THAT INSTANT, THE MEN OF THE CLASS FELT ELECTRICITY TRAVELING THROUGH THEIR BODIES.

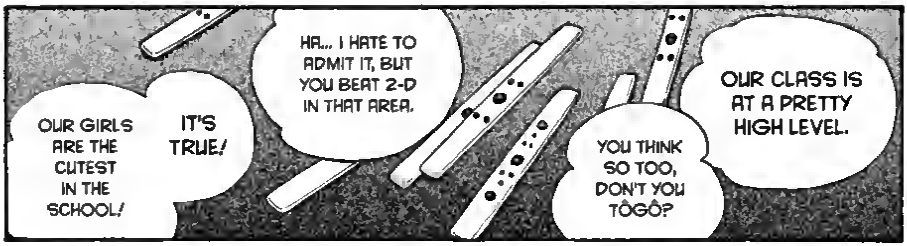
HA!
AS IF YOU'D KNOW!!
KWAB
NO MATTER WHAT WAVES BUFFET HIM, EVERY MAN NEEDS A PORT TO WAIT OUT THE STORM!!

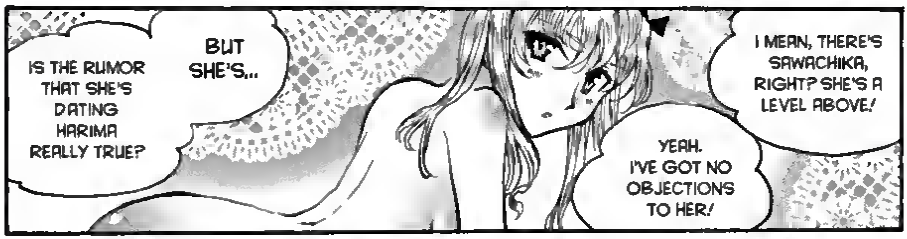
DOES MACARONI OVER HERE EVEN HAVE A GIRL HE LIKES?!
I CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE IT!!

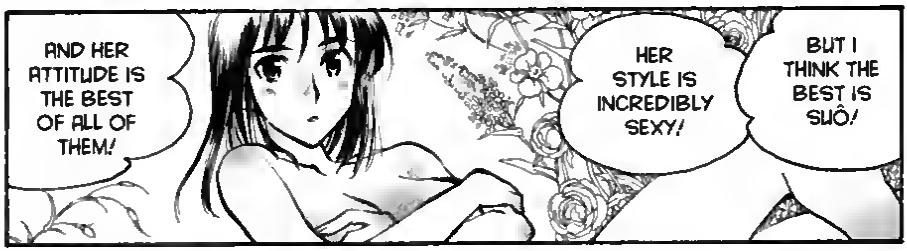
HA!
HOW CHILDISH CAN YOU PEOPLE BE?
I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND A WORD OF IT, BUT HE'S PERSUADED ME!
OKAY, THEN WHO IS IT?!
WHAAAT?
URR...
I-I REALLY DON'T WANT TO...
IF YOU'RE A MAN, THEN GRAB YOUR CHANCE AND RUN WITH IT!!
A SCHOOL TRIP NEEDS A CONFESS-YOUR-LOVE EVENT!!
WITHOUT IT, IT DOESN'T EVEN COUNT AS A SCHOOL TRIP!!
CHI!
PON!
NGAA...?!
FLIP
HE SAYS...
...THAT YOU WERE PRETTY HOT ON NAGAYAMA BACK IN THE FIRST SEMESTER. IS THAT TRUE?
HM...?
COME TO THINK OF IT...
ISHIYAMA-KUN FROM THE SOCCER CLUB...

AND NAGAYAMA SEEMED SO PURE, TOO!
GYAAAAHH!!
AH...
SIGH...
I HEAR THAT ON THE TRIP, NAGAYAMA AND TANAKA WERE
BLEEEEEEP
THE WHOLE TIME!!
EEEEEE!!
I CAN'T EVER GO BACK TO THE PAST!!
RON!
HE'S EVEN GOT AN URADORA!!
THAAK
ZUCHAA
THAT WHOLE THING WAS OVER LONG AGO!!
BISSH
SHUT UP!!
DON'T BE A FOOL!
YOU LEFT YOUR FLANKS UNPROTECTED
P-PLEASE! JUST FORGET THIS WHOLE THING EVER HAPPENED!
IT'S OVER! I'M DEAD!
YOU'VE HAD THE RUG PULLED OUT FROM UNDER YOU BY YOUR PAL ASÔ.
SO NOW YOU'RE GOING, ALL LONELY, TO A RAMEN SHOP NEAR THE STATION.
GAH!!
WHA... SAITÔ!!
HA! SO YOU SAY, BUT I WONDER ABOUT YOU, SUGA.

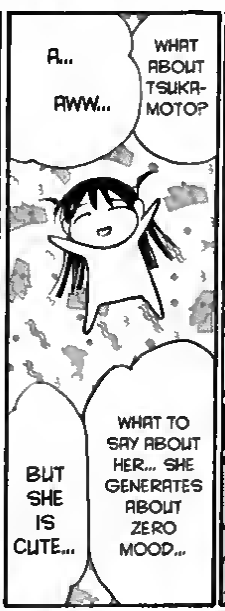
DAMMIT! HE'S TURNED THE ATTACK BACK!!
SOME NEW GUY, AGAIN?!
URK! ARE YOU SERIOUS?!
AH! COME TO EAT IT...I MEAN, THINK OF IT...
SAEKO'S BEEN SEEN GOING TO KARAOKE WITH SOME GUY FROM FUJISAWA HIGH RECENTLY.
!!
KIDO WAS WITH HER. IN THE SAME GROUP.
BUT WAIT... THE STORY ISN'T FINISHED...
THE EVEN MORE FRIGHTENING PART IS COMING UP NEXT!
ONCE SHE HAS A TARGET, SHE NEVER MISSES!
BUT SAEKO IS REALLY IMPRESSIVE!
I WONDER HOW MANY MEN SHE'S PUT THROUGH THE GRINDER.
SHE WENT ALONG...?
YEAH...
AHH...
KIDO, HUH?
SUGA, WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT?
I JUST LOOK UP TO YOU.
OH, NO REASON.
..... HM?
WHAT IS IT?
HEY, THE BATHS ARE GETTING TOO CROWDED AT NIGHT.
!!
SENSEI SAYS 2-C HAS TO TAKE THEIR BATHS NOW!
カラ〜ン
WHAMM
POOR UMEZU IS TURNING IN HIS GRAVE.
HE'S GOTTA BE STRONG.


OUR GIRLS ARE THE CUTEST IN THE SCHOOL!
IT'S TRUE!
HA... I HATE TO ADMIT IT, BUT YOU BEAT 2-D IN THAT AREA.
YOU THINK SO TOO, DON'T YOU TÔGÔ?
OUR CLASS IS AT A PRETTY HIGH LEVEL.


IS THE RUMOR THAT SHE'S DATING HARIMA REALLY TRUE?
BUT SHE'S...
I MEAN, THERE'S SAWACHIKA, RIGHT? SHE'S A LEVEL ABOVE!
YEAH. I'VE GOT NO OBJECTIONS TO HER!


AND HER ATTITUDE IS THE BEST OF ALL OF THEM!
HER STYLE IS INCREDIBLY SEXY!
BUT I THINK THE BEST IS SUÔ!

URK!!
TÔGÔ, YOU JERK... WHEN DID YOU...
SUCHAR スハァ
AH, HA! RON!


A... AWW...
WHAT ABOUT TSUKA-MOTO?
BUT SHE IS CUTE...
WHAT TO SAY ABOUT HER... SHE GENERATES ABOUT ZERO MOOD...

I HATE ASÔ FOR THAT!
AND THE THINGS HE MUST'VE DONE WITH SUÔ... THIS, THAT, THE OTHER...

YEAH, BUT SHE SEEMS LIKE SHE'S JUST PLAYING AROUND.
SHE'S LOADED WITH BOYFRIENDS ALREADY, RIGHT?
WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT MIHARA?
SHE'S GOT STYLE, TOO.

YOU'RE BOTH IN BASKETBALL. THAT MAKES YOU CLOSE, RIGHT?
SUGA, HOW ABOUT HER FOR YOU?
THERE'S SAGANO, FROM LADIES BASKETBALL.
HM? UM... YEAH, SURE...
SHE'S ALWAYS IN A GOOD MOOD!
AH, NOW SHE'S A GOOD CHOICE!
YEAH, I THINK THAT GOOD THINGS COULD HAPPEN WITH HER!
ICHIJÔ?
BUT SHE'S MORE LIKE "JUST A FRIEND" TO ME!
BEFORE, I NEVER EVEN NOTICED HER.
WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR IS LOVE! LOVE!!
REALLY?
WHAT A WASTE! THEN O-KINU IS OUT TOO, HUH?
WHY ISN'T IMADORI GOING OUT WITH HER?
SAITÔ-KUN?!
AHH! SHE'S PRETTY CLOSE TO BEING JUST MY TYPE!
SHE'S THE SMALLEST IN THE CLASS.
THE ONLY THING HE'S INTERESTED IN IS A HUGE CHEST.
WHAT AN IDIOT!
I LIKE IT! IT'S NICE WHEN THEY USE THEIR SWEET VOICES ON US GUYS LIKE THAT!
THE GIRLS WHO TRY TO BUTTER UP THE GUYS TURN ME WAY OFF!
I'M INTO IT!
AND SHE DOESN'T DO THAT...
I GUESS IT TAKES ALL KINDS.
I'M INTO IT TOO, THOUGH.
HEY, I NEVER KNEW THAT YOU WERE EXTREMELY M BUT HERE YOU ARE!
PROBABLY VERY S!
ARE YOU SURE? SHE'S AN S, IF YOU ASK ME!
I AM NOT!!
NOT MY KINUGAWA! SHE ISN'T MY GIRLFRIEND!!
NOT YET, ANYWAY...
ISHIYAMA'S DIRTY IMAGININGS ARE SOILING MY IMAGE OF YOUR MISS KINUGAWA.
SAITÔ...
MAYBE IT'S TO TRY AND EMPHASIZE THE CONTRAST.
...KINUGAWA HAS A STRANGELY ADULT, SEXY WAY ABOUT HER.
HER BODY LOOKS LIKE A KID'S, BUT...

WH-WHAT ?!
A YAKUMAN, RIGHT OFF THE BAT?!
IT'S TIME TO END THIS. TENHÔ.
WHEN ONE THINKS ABOUT IT, SHE IS SIMPLY ONE MORE TYPE OF WOMAN.
HOWEVER, NO ONE...
WAIT A SECOND! THAT'S JUST WEIRD!
SORT OF IN THE SAME CHILDLIKE BODY IS TSUKAMOTO...
NOT JUST HER BODY. SHE'S A CHILD ALL OVER.
THE VERY ODDS AGAINST IT FRIGHTEN ME.
NOW ISN'T THAT ODD. ANOTHER TENHÔ.
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE IS WHAT IT IS!! ARE YOU CHEATING?!
YOU KNOW, TSUKAMOTO HAS A BIG HEART, TOO...
IDIOT!! WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?!
WHO'D EVEN BE INTERESTED IN HER...
GOOD STYLE, IN A CASUAL WAY.
WHAT ABOUT ÔTSUKA?
SHE'S REALLY GOOD AT TAKING CARE OF THINGS!
BUT SHE'S WAY TOO NOISY.
YOKI IS TOO, I GUESS.
SPEAKING OF DREAMS, TSUKA-MOTO...
YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT HOW SHE SLEEPWALKS THROUGH LIFE?
YOU'RE SUGGESTING A GIRL THAT HARD TO GET CLOSE TO AS A GIRLFRIEND? BUT, I GUESS THERE ARE SOME GUYS WHERE THAT'S THEIR DREAM, HUH?
WHAT ABOUT TAKANO?
NOT HER ATTITUDE, BUT HER LOOKS. SHE'S DEFINITELY A BEAUTY!
HUH?
...WE'RE TAKING THIS OUTSIDE!
COME ON, GENTLE-MEN...

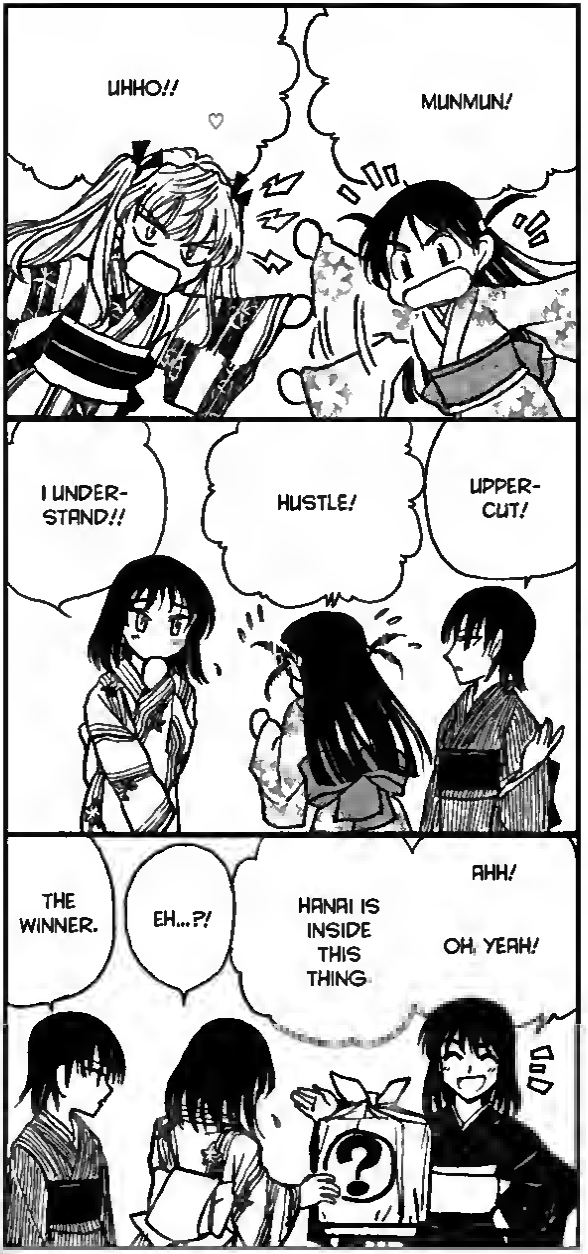
[TO BE CONTINUED IN VOLUME 15]

Short Rumble The Road To

Now, what you've been waiting for!

**After our long journey, we've finally arrived.
The Road to Short Rumble!
We present the five winning panels in the competition as one continuing manga!!
Including the shocking (?) winning fifth panel!! Turn the page!!**

Short Rumble The Road To

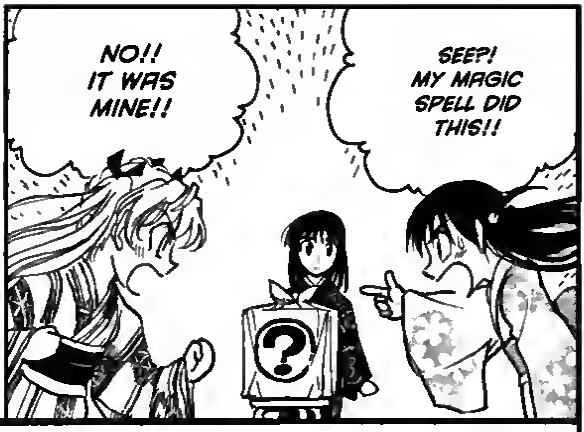


First Panel
Kobayashi Yû-san

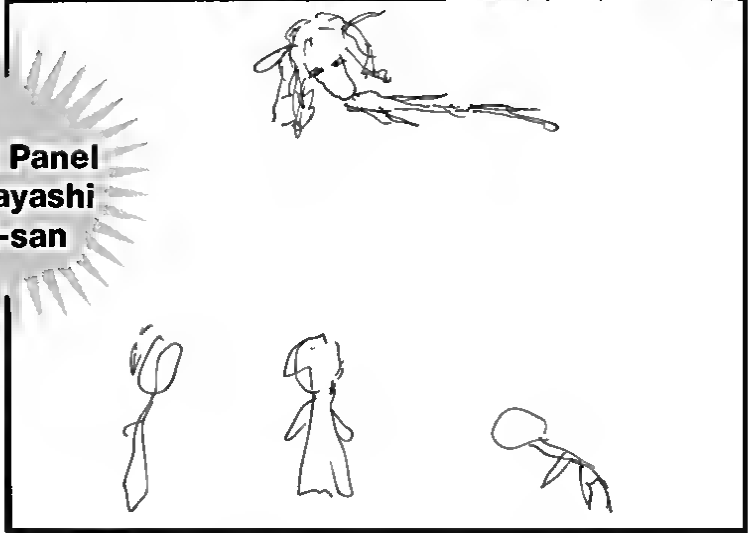
Second Panel
Fukui Yukari-san

Third Panel
Koshimizu Ami-san

Fourth Panel Takahashi Hiroki-san



Fifth Panel Kobayashi Yû-san



KOBAYASHI JIN'S COMMENTS

{ Kobayashi-san's picture… Tenma is flying. It also looks like some kind of religious illustration… }

Anyway, with three wins and two losses, the Kawada Team takes away a big win!!

And with that...

The Road to Short Rumble

Fin.

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction in our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Katsu curry, page 4

Katsu is meat that is breaded and fried. When one simply says katsu without specifying the meat, then the meat is assumed to be a pork cutlet. There are various ways to serve *katsu*, and one is to place the fried pork cutlet on a bed of rice and pour curry sauce over the entire dish.

W University and circles, page 5

For some reason, many manga, as well as other entertainment media, tend to use abbreviated names for many universities. However, the universities are famous and would be known by the readers. W refers to Waseda University, one of the top private schools in Japan. Only top students are able to enroll in it. Circles is one of the words for extracurricular clubs one can join while attending the university.

Manzai and angry guy, page 13

The tradition of the *manzai* act—an Abbott and Costello type of routine with a dumb guy (*boke*) and an angry guy (*tsukkomi*) who is always frustrated at the dumb guy's comments—is one of the mainstays of Japanese comedy. In this scene, Hanai knows that he's being goaded (possibly by the manga artist) into getting frustrated by all the look-alikes of his classmates, and he refuses to rise to the occasion and play the angry guy.

Foreign language, page 14

The foreign language that Queen Eri and her followers speak is slightly mispronounced Japanese in the original. This translation carries over the meaning of the mispronounced Japanese into mispronounced English.

Valentine's Day in Japan, page 25

There are very few holidays as associated with a particular product as Valentine's Day is with chocolate in Japan. Sure, the West has its chocolate hearts and gifts of assorted chocolate candies, but in Japan, it has taken on a special significance—it has become the "Sadie Hawkins" day of relationships, when girls are encouraged to "confess their love" to their sweethearts. Acceptance of the gift means that the guy is forced to at least consider the girl as a potential girlfriend. Valentine's chocolates are—to the joy of all males—specifically for women to give to men. But guys, don't get too excited: there are obligatory gifts of chocolates, too, that carry no more meaning than an annual birthday card. For those gifts that do have romantic overtones, there is a particular day where the guy can respond, one month later on White Day.

Give it your best shot!!, page 28

This dream sequence is a reference to the extremely popular baseball manga *Touch*, by Mitsuru Adachi. In this case, Takano Akira is playing the part of Minami, the beautiful girl-next-door, who, along with a pair of twin boys, Kazuya and Tatsuya (Ka-chan and Ta-chan) make up the main characters of an underplayed drama of love, relationships, and baseball.

Sasanishiki, Koshihikari, page 33

These are two different brands of rice available in Japan.

Sabamiso, page 38

Simmered mackerel in a miso sauce.

Mitarashi, page 39

Mitarashi are dumplings made of a rice-flour dough and covered with mitarashi sauce—a bean-based sauce that is very sweet but also slightly salty.

Gigi, page 43

Women's magazines aimed at high-school, college, and OL (office lady)-age women tend to feature repeated syllables for their names. Popular examples are *Can-can* and *Non-non*. And so, *Gigi* would be fair game for the title of a women's magazine.

Giri chocolate, page 45

As mentioned in the Valentine's Day note, one type of chocolate given on Valentine's Day has nothing to do with love. The obligatory chocolate, or *giri* chocolate, is given to peers, subordinates, and especially superiors in business, clubs, and other ventures. In this case, Eri is telling herself that she wants to give chocolate to Harima simply because he helped out as class trip representative.

Uppercut, hustle, page 63

Both of the English words "upper" (meaning "uppercut") and "hustle" (as in working hard, rather than a con game) have come to the Japanese language through the world of professional wrestling.

Smooth, page 63

Fukui Yukari, who plays Sarah in the Japanese version of the School Rumble anime, uses the word I translated into English a couple of times as "smooth." The word in Japanese is *sara-tto*, which does mean smooth, but it also contains the same sound as Sarah's name. That is probably why she uses the word so much.

Kyoto, page 69

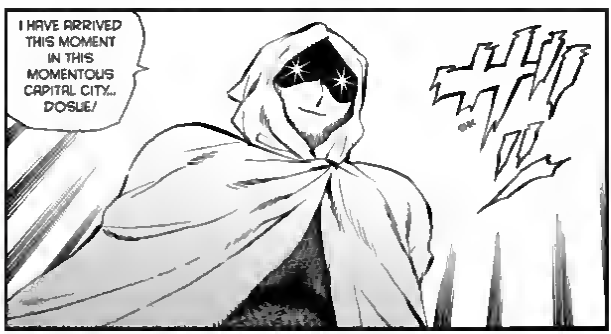
Kyoto was the capital of Japan for most of its recorded history. Even during the Edo period (1603–1867), when most of the politics of the era took place in Edo (modern-day Tokyo), the Emperor still lived in Kyoto. During the Second World War, the United States made the conscious decision to avoid bombing Kyoto because of its huge number of historic buildings, temples, and shrines.

Momentous/moment and dosue, page 78

Taking the last part first: *Dosue* is one of the ways to say desu (the respectful way of saying "is") in western Japan's accent, *Kansai-ben*. I translated the pun into an English-language pun (and fortunately for me, it isn't supposed to be a very funny pun) because translating the words wouldn't have made sense in the context of the panel. Harima said, "We arrived yesterday in this 'capital' city." The pronunciation for "capital," *kyô*, can also mean "today." So his pun was that we arrived yesterday in the city of today. My translation used the "time" aspect from Harima's line in Japanese, and played on the words moment and momentous. (On page 80, Samuel makes the same pun.)

Moment/momentous, minute, secondary, page 80

The character of Samuel makes the same pun that Harima did on page 78 (see the note for Harima's line). However, instead of "yesterday," Samuel used the word "today," making the pun that means both "I have arrived today in the capital city" and "I have arrived today in the city of today." Because of the time difference between the two lines, I used "moments ago" in Harima's line, and "this moment" in Samuel's. The comment on the side of the page said in Japanese, "Tomorrow and the day after tomorrow in capital city. .sorry," which can also mean, "Tomorrow and the day after tomorrow in the city of today...sorry." So taking the time aspect of the translated pun, Kyoto is indeed momentous. Although it isn't minute (small), it is, in fact, the secondary capital of Japan, after Tokyo. Since all of these time counters (moment, second, minute) can also act as adjectives, it seemed to be the best substitution for the original pun that I could make. Lucky for me, all of these puns didn't really have to be hilarious to match the mood of the story.



Angry guy and dying, page 82

Samuel seems to think he's a part of a *Kansai* (western Japan) tradition of the *manzai* act (see the note for page 13), but he seems to expect Harima or Sawachika to play the angry guy. In the final panel of page 82, Samuel says in Japanese that "Japan's standards have fallen." But the word for "fallen," *ochita*, sounds like *ochi*, which means "punch line." In his aside (comment in small print), he says a phrase that means both "it hasn't fallen" and "the punch line didn't work." My translation came pretty close to both meanings by playing off comedians' jargon referring to an act at which nobody laughs as "dying."

Sayuri, page 82

The feature film *Memoirs of a Geisha* went by the title of *Sayuri* in Japan.

Eri Sawachika, page 87

In the Japanese version, Willy placed her personal name first and family name last, so the translation did the same.

Middle school, page 88

Japan is on a 6-3-3 system for compulsory education. Eri's middle-school years as measured in Japan would be grades 7 through 9.

Jap, page 102

Yes, "Jap" is a WWII-era racial slur, and shouldn't be used lightly. But Kobayashi-sensei used it, and it fits the character, so this translation used it as well.

Ushiwakamaru and Benkei, page 104

In Kamakura-era Japan (late 1100s to 1333), an extremely tall and burly warrior monk, Benkei, collects swords by defeating their owners. As legend goes, when he collects his thousandth sword he will be able to finance the rebuilding of a temple. He has already collected 999 of them, and he stands at Gojō Ôhashi bridge waiting for a swordsman to arrive so he can collect the final sword. The very young son of a general, Ushiwakamaru, comes to the bridge with his face hidden and playing a flute. Benkei ignores the boy as not worth his time, but Ushiwakamaru goads him into fighting. What Benkei doesn't know is that Ushiwakamaru was trained to fight by Tengu (long-nosed goblins), and he proves his skill by defeating, but not killing, Benkei. Afterward, Benkei becomes Ushiwakamaru's most loyal retainer. Ushiwakamaru is later known by his more famous name of Yoshitsune, the famous tragic figure of Kamakura Japan.

Gegege creatures, page 111

One of the most beloved manga in Japan after *Tetsuwan Atom* (Astroboy) is *Gegege no Kitarō*. The title character, Gegege no Kitarō, is a one-eyed boy who lives among the Japanese yôkai ("creatures" or "monsters") and saves humankind—mostly children—from evil yôkai that live in Japan. The regular cast of yôkai are funny-looking (in both meanings of the word) creatures with entertaining personalities to match.

Monks, page 127

One of the traditional ways to escape from one's problems, or even the material world itself, is to shave one's head and become a monk. A monk's life tends to be very austere, so it tends to be a refuge of last resort.

Toei Movie Land, page 137

Called in Japanese Uzumasa Eiga-mura ("Uzumasa Movie Village"), the Toei Movie Land theme park and studio on the outskirts of Kyoto is a popular attraction. Actual movie/TV filming is done within the park and can be witnessed by the park's visitors.

Edo Wonderland Nikko and Nyan-mage, page 137

Edo Wonderland Nikko is a theme park similar to Toei Movie Land (see the above note) in that it re-creates the feeling of Edo-period Japan, but it is not a movie studio. It is situated near the hot-springs resort town of Nikko northeast of Tokyo. Nyan-mage is the theme park's mascot and the star of the Nyan-mage theater show in the park.

Neeiiggh, page 139

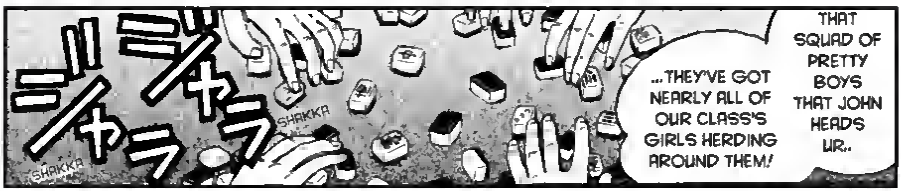
The sound effects Kobayashi Jin-sensei used for the "runaway palanquin" are the same sound effects used for horses in manga.

Shogun's beloved uncle, page 140

This is a reference to the long-running TV series *Mito Kômon*. In the series—loosely based on an historical figure—Tokugawa Mitsukuni, the uncle of the Shogun wanders the country posing as an elderly commoner along with his faithful companions. As he arrives in a new town each week, he discovers that the local yakuza and feudal nobility are oppressing the good folk of Japan. He uses the power of his position in the Shogunate to punish the wrongdoers and save the day.

Mahjong, *Pon*, and *Han-Chan*, page 151

Mahjong is a favorite gambling game all over the world, but it seems to hold a special place in the Asian heart. The Japanese rules for the tile game are many and varied, and one distinction is the large number of named winning hands one can produce during the game for high point scores. The most common winning hand consists of four sets of three tiles (either three in a run or three of a kind—such as found in poker or gin) and one pair. When another player discards a tile that will complete a set in your hand, you say *pon* and take the discarded tile. When someone says "*Han-Chan*," it indicates that there will be eight games in the currently played match. (Playing a full sixteen games would be Zen-Chan.)



Chi, page 153

Chi is like *pon* described in the note above. If another player discards a tile that will complete a run of three numbered tiles of the same suit in your hand, you say *chi* and take the discarded tile.

Ron and *Uradora*, page 154

A player calls *ron* when he has made a winning hand by taking another player's discarded tile. Anytime one hears the word *ron*, it means that the player calling it has won. An *uradora* is a bonus tile worth extra points that is included in the winning hand.

Yakuman and *Tenhô*, page 158

Yakuman are the highest possible winning hands available. They are all very difficult to complete, but when one does, the player wins big. *Tenhô* is a *yakuman* winning hand that has been dealt to one of the players. *Tenhô* has one of the highest scores in the game.